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AFRICA update

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Policy Initiatives

Construction of RE plants in South Africa

www.energized.co.za/?p=31

The Government is aiming to purchase 1,000 MW of RE by 2013 and 3,800 MW by 2016, It has decided against offering independent power producers a fixed price for RE.

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization approves international bio technology center at University of Nigeria

www.sunnewsonline.com/webpages/features/education/2011/aug/23/education-23-08-2011-002.html

Institute is being established with the aim of strengthening the national and regional capacities in all aspects of modern Biotechnology. The centre has been challenged to play a leading role in the achievement of Strategic Programme Objective of UNESCO in the sector.

South Africa DoE issues draft policy to mandate biofuel blending

www.biofuelsdigest.com/bdigest/2011/09/22/south-africa-releases-draft-biofuels-policy-for-comment/

Department of Energy of South Africa has release the draft regulations on mandatory blending of petrol and diesel with biofuels. The Draft Regulations deal with three issues, namely: the conditions of mandatory blending; the prohibition of certain activities; and record-keeping for fuel pricing administration purposes.

Ministry of Environment, Science and Technology plans to introduce RE to fill the country's energy gap in Ghana

www.gbcghana.com/index.php?id=1.358607.1.583126

The Ministry introduced a bill on RE in parliament. The bill opens up the country's energy sector to the private sector to invest in RE.

South Africa's Energy Minister: The Government's aim to roll out 1mn solar water heaters by 2014 would help reduce GHG

www.iol.co.za/business/business-news/govt-to-cut-consumers-energy-bills-1.1137349/

The plan will save 2mn tons of CO₂ equivalent emission.

Business & Market

30 biofuel projects are currently underway in Mozambique with a total investment of over US\$100mn

www.allafrica.com/stories/201109051562.html

A project covers an area of less than a thousand hectares. Approval must be sought from the Ministry of Agriculture. For large projects above ten thousand hectares approval must be gained from the Council of Ministers. The projects will save more than \$682mn per year through reduced fuel imports in the Country.

Africa Renewables Ltd launches biomass supply chain project in Ghana

www.biomassmagazine.com/articles/5771/ghana-sees-first-biomass-supply-chain-project

Africa Renewable Ltd is recruiting for more than 70 new forestry and biomass production jobs in Ghana to support the country's first wood chip supply chain venture. The project is fully sustainable as all trees are replaced by Ghana Rubber Estates Limited.

Private sector to generate energy

www.ecoseed.org/business/emerging-markets/article/131-emerging-markets/11294-mozambique-food-energy-business-to-produce-ethanol-cooking-fuel

Novozymes and environmental venture group CleanStar Ventures are setting up a food-energy business in Mozambique. The company would replace charcoal-burning cooking stoves with ethanol stoves. This will allow the farmers to cultivate crops and trees that they can use for food and for fuel.

Business & Market

Camco International Ltd. to work on new energy project in East Africa

www.af.reuters.com/article/ugandaNews/idAFL3E7KL11I20110921

The company will provide technical assistance to the Belgian Development Agency under a 2nd contract to develop clean energy projects worth \$800,000 in Uganda. In 2010, RE investment in Africa increased by 384% from \$0.7bn in 2009 to \$3.6bn.

Kenya group pleads to keep jatropha license

www.biofuelsdigest.com/bdigest/2011/09/29/kenya-group-pleads-to-keep-jatropha-license/

The jatropha project began with 10,000 hectares and then be scaled up to 50,000 hectares, with the remaining land integrating agriculture and wildlife.

Sweet Sorghum is best option for alternative energy in Ghana

www.ghanabusinessnews.com/2011/09/30/sweet-sorghum-is-best-option-for-alternative-energy-farmers/

Sorghum Farmers and Seed Growers urged to recommend the use of sweet sorghum for biofuel under the Savannah Accelerated Development Project. The stock can be used for ethanol, the residue is used in poultry feed and the grain is for consumption.

Finance & Investments

Eskom receives \$365mn from African Development Bank for clean energy project

www.china-newenergy.net/english/shownews.asp?id=1063&news_class=Industry&first=News

Concentrating Solar Power is the RE source with the largest potential in South Africa. 'Grid-connected solar thermal power can provide large volumes of firm generation capacity, comparable to what is currently provided by coal-fired power plants.

Africa Renewable seeks €30mn for biomass projects

www.renewableenergyfocus.com/view/19312/africa-renewables-seeks-30m-for-biomass-projects/

The project involves harvesting redundant rubber trees and processing them into woodchips, which are then sold to European power houses and businesses as replacements for coal.

R & D - Technology

Vodacom to build one of Africa's greenest commercial buildings

www.franchiseek.com/Africa/NewsDetail.asp?NewsID=1002

The innovation centre plays an important role in helping to reduce carbon emissions through the use of RE, as well as batteries. The centre would also look at how to reduce the running and deployment cost of base station sites.

National Center for Energy and Environment develops biodiesel production equipment for more efficient transformation of jatropha oil into fuel in Nigeria

www.biofuelsdigest.com/bdigest/2011/09/22/nigeria-training-farmers-in-jatropha-biodiesel-and-pineapple-peel-ethanol/

The university is training local farmers to grow jatropha for use in the new equipment and has begun producing ethanol from pineapple peels.

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