

West Africa Forum for Clean Energy Financing (WAFCEF) Business Plan Competition



The ECOWAS Regional Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (ECREEE), the Climate Technology Initiative Private Financing Advisory Network (CTI PFAN) and the Regional Clean Energy Investment Initiative (RCEII) of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), together with their West Africa PFAN partners are inviting West African entrepreneurs with promising clean energy projects (renewable energy resources and energy efficiency) to enter into a Business Plan Competition - the West Africa Forum for Clean Energy Financing (WAFCEF)/the Forum.

Organizers

WAFCEF is being organized by Nexant, Inc., as implementer of the RCEII, together with partners ECREEE, CTI-PFAN, the African Development Bank (AfDB) through its Sustainable Energy Fund for Africa (SEFA), the Banque Oueste Africaine de Développement (BOAD), and the African Biofuels and Renewable Energy Company (ABREC), affiliated with the ECOWAS Bank for Investment and Development (EBID).

Objectives of the Forum

The purpose of the Forum is to identify and nurture entrepreneurs, start-up companies and existing companies with promising clean energy projects in West Africa by linking them with investors and financiers.

Who is Eligible to Participate?

Businesses operating and registered in ECOWAS countries: Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Ivory Coast, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo. Individuals from those countries are also eligible to participate in the Business Plan Competition, as well as foreign individuals and entities with projects in those countries.

Types of Eligible Clean Energy Projects

The project / business must promote or use clean energy technologies, products or services.

Clean Energy Technologies Eligible for Business Plan Competition

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biomass • Biogas • Bio-fuels • Clean Transport • Distributed and Off-grid Generation • Energy Access • Energy Storage and Conservation • Energy Efficiency | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geothermal power • Hydroelectric power • Rural Electrification • Tidal / Wave / Ocean power • Solar power • Thermal energy • Waste-to-Energy • Wind power |
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Eligible Applicant Project Size

In principle, only business proposals that require total (initial) capital in excess of US\$1 million (or any currency equivalent) but less than US\$50 million will be considered, although the WAFCEF organizers reserve the right to accept projects that do not fit within these guidelines if other features of the project are particularly exceptional.

Selection Process and Awards



Note: The Awards are not monetary awards, but provide the winners with a high profile among the investors who are part of the PFAN's global network.

Where will WAFCEF be Held?

WAFCEF will be held in Accra, Ghana, over three days during the week of October 7, 2013, with final dates to be announced no later than July 1, 2013.

Expert Panel

The Expert Panel will consist of five (5) judges that are clean energy industry experts, investors and financiers familiar with the local business environment.

Application Process and Deadline

All applications should be sent to investment-pfan@ecreee.org and westafrica@cti-pfan.net

The **Application Package** should contain three attachments including:

1. The completed Application Form (as a PDF file)
2. The Project Data Sheet (as an excel sheet),
3. The completed Project Proposal (as a PDF file),

Applications can be submitted in English, French and Portuguese languages.

Questions may be sent to bgould@nexant.com before April 15.

All questions and answers will be posted on the ECREEE website as they are received and no later than April 20. Individual communication with regard to the competition will not be answered.

More information is available at: www.ecreee.org and www.cti-pfan.net

All applications must be received by midnight (23:59 hours) GMT on April 30, 2013.

Sponsors and Organizers:

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