

The weekly Spectator newspaper coverage of the Workshop in Ghana



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Bioenergy Workshop Held In Accra

By Clement Adzei Boye
A three-day workshop to assess Ghana's capacity to develop a bio-energy system to augment its traditional energy production has been held in Accra. It was themed, "Production of non-food, bio-oil supply chains for renewable energy in Ghana: Needs, challenges and opportunities."

Organized by the University of Ghana, Legon, the workshop brought together local and international researchers, practitioners, investors and decision makers. It was under the auspices of the African Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Group Science and Technology initiative and the European Commission framework development programme.

Prof. Ebenezer Oduro-Owusu, Vice Dean of the Faculty of Science, noted that the workshop had come at a time Ghana was experiencing challenges in energy production, characterised by power fluctuations and cuts and tasked stakeholders to begin to ask questions on what was causing the crisis and have it resolved.

He said there was urgent need for re-

searchers, scientists and industry to help the government find solutions to the country's energy problem.

"We should look at how to effectively manage what we have in terms of bio-fuel to support the energy sector and industrial activities. Nobody knows what to take up but we should be able to help the government!" Prof. Oduro said.

The use of bio-fuel for energy production is environmentally friendly and a sure way of mitigating climate change impact from carbon dioxide emissions.

In a presentation, Prof. Patricia Harvey, of the University of Greenwich in the United Kingdom, argued the importance of Africa investing in research and innovations in bio-fuel technology.

She noted that, in spite of the numerous investments made in science and technology, the world was still searching for solutions to alternative energy sources.

"We need a change in conducting research and innovations in the universities and in the industry," she said.



The participants in a group picture

sector and has other provisions such as the mandatory purchase of electricity generated from renewable sources.

The Japanese Ambassador to Ghana, Mr. Naoto Nikai, said renewable energy such as solar is now in vogue, and noted that Japan has been cooperating with the Noguchi Institute in many areas.

The Chief Representative, JICA Ghana Office, Mr. Jiro Inamura commended the project managers and said solar power is clean with the tendency of sustaining the precious and limited

natural resources.

He said as Ghana's economy grows, the introduction of photo voltaic facilities should be integrated, to sustain provision of sound power.

He was hopeful the facility will be used to maximize the Institute's academic and medical activities.

The Vice-Chancellor of the University of Ghana, Professor Ernest Aryeetey who chaired the function, expressed hope and looked forward to the commencement of phase two of the project for the benefit of the University.

Peter Amo-Ashie Promises Developments For Awutu-Senya East

From Spectator Reporter, Senya
A former National Democratic Congress parliamentary aspirant for Senya East constituency has promised massive developmental projects for the Awutu-Senya East Municipality should he be nominated by the President as the Metropolitan Chief Executive.

According to him, Awutu-Senya East lags behind in developments in spite of the huge revenues generated from both the Kasoa and Bawjase markets.

Mr. Peter Amo-Ashie promised this when he led the residents in a clean-up exercise at Queens City, Odupong-Ofaakor.

The Awutu-Senya East Municipality comprises Kasoa (Odupong-Kpehe), Akweley, Opeikum, Odupong-Ofaakor, Bawjase.

"Awutu-Senya East lags behind massive developments and though much money comes from the major markets in the municipality.

"It is very sad that such a huge cosmopolitan town as Kasoa has no pub-

lic toilets, Mr. Amo-Ashie lamented

He assured that, if he were nominated by the President as the Municipal Chief Executive, he would use both his foreign and local contacts, as well as revenue generated from the business community in the area, to construct a hospital at Kasoa, build modern clinics the towns and strengthen the existing clinics at Bawjase and Kasoa.



Mr. Peter Amo-Ashie

... (second) right) Japan Ambassador being assisted by Mr. Wisdom Ahiataku-Togobo (third, left) Director, Ministry of Energy, to cut the tape to commission the solar panels. Looking on are Prof. Ernest Aryeetey (second left) Vice Chancellor of University of Ghana and Mr. Jiro Inamura (left), JICA representative
Photo: Michael Ayeh

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