



**A PROCEEDINGS REPORT FOR A MEETING BETWEEN AFIEGO AND THE  
NATIONAL CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT CENTER (NCDC) TEAM**



A group photo of AFIEGO, youth leaders and NCDC team after the meeting.

**October 12, 2023,  
NCDC head offices**

## **Introduction**

On October 12, 2023, Africa Institute for Energy Governance (AFIEGO) supported youth in convening a meeting with the National Curriculum Development Centre (NCDC) team to discuss the need to include renewable energy and energy efficiency in the lower secondary school and primary curriculum of education.

The meeting aimed at engaging the NCDC to promote Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (RE & EE) skills development at all levels and contribute to bridging the skills gap in the RE and EE sectors.

The meeting attracted seven (7) participants including two (2) women and five (5) men.

## **Background**

The Ministry of Education and Sports through DIT introduced skilling in vocational occupations at the primary and secondary levels to enhance learners' skills at an early age; however, the curriculum for skilling does not include content on RE and EE. Yet there is a deep persistent skills gap in the Renewable Energy. In addition, NCDC has not undertaken an initiative to develop a comprehensive curriculum to guide training and skilling in RE and EE.

Despite the massive capacity of renewable energy in accelerating sustainable development, the challenge of limited technical capacity and skills gap in the renewable energy sector remains persistent hence need for consolidated efforts by all key stakeholders such as NCDC to develop a comprehensive curriculum for RE & EE at all levels, review the existing curriculum at all levels to ensure that it contains up-to-date content, monitor the implementation of this curriculum as well as regulating the training in RE & EE.

## **Meeting Proceedings**

### **Opening remarks by the chairperson**

The chairperson Ms. Alisat Gule Wabomba welcomed the participants to the meeting and extended a vote of thanks to Africa Institute for Energy Governance for the efforts towards the promotion of renewable energy and environmental conservation. She noted that she was impressed by intentions to collaborate and eager to embrace submissions.

In addition, she noted that there is a need to point out the schools we need to pioneer the skilling and noted that there hasn't been much push for NCDC though the idea has been in the pipeline

Further, she highlighted that the resolutions of the meeting would mark the beginning of our collaboration together.

### **Remarks from AFIEGO**

Ms. Barbra Kembabazi from AFIEGO began by thanking NCDC for allowing them to have an engagement and introduced AFIEGO as a non-profit company limited by guarantee that was incorporated under Uganda's Companies Act. She said that AFIEGO undertakes public policy research and advocacy to influence energy policies to benefit the poor and vulnerable.

Barbra further informed the team that the organisation was born out of the need to contribute to efforts to turn Africa's clean energy potential into reality and to ensure that the common man and woman benefit from this energy boom. In addition, Barbra informed the meeting that through lobbying, research, and community education, AFIEGO works with communities and leaders to ensure that clean energy resources are utilized in a way that promotes equitable development, environmental conservation, and respect for human rights.

Ms. Kembabazi noted that AFIEGO has been working with youth to promote renewable energy in Uganda. Furthermore, she stated that Uganda's population is dominated by young people with over 78% being youth below the age of 30 years, therefore she said it is strategic to involve youth in renewable energy technologies to pave the way for a green economy while also targeting achieving SDG7. Further, she noted that the wide use of renewable energy would greatly contribute to environmental conservation and improve people's livelihoods.

In conclusion, Ms. Kembabazi noted that integrating renewable energy courses in the education curriculum will create a generation that is endowed with skills and knowledge on renewable energy which is a great tool in mitigating climate change impacts and fostering sustainable development.

### **Remarks from Mr. Gerald Barekye**

Gerald Barekye who is a youth champion from Kikuube district noted that the promotion of clean energy is paramount because it directly supports the agriculture sector. He noted that communities can be trained on how to use biogas and create awareness of other clean cooking alternatives.

He noted that with the increasing rate of unemployment, it is important that young people are trained on renewable energy to come up with skills that can assist them in becoming job creators and advised that young people should be the target because they are early adopters of knowledge and it's easy to change the mindset of the young than the elderly.

### **Areas of collaboration**

Members suggested the following areas for collaboration,

- Identification and recommendation of experts in renewable energy to make input in the process of curriculum review.
- Advocacy and promoting renewable energy competencies.
- Capacity building training on renewable energy.
- Incorporation of the renewable energy syllabus in the curriculum.
- Support curriculum review for already existing courses to make sure there is enough legitimate content on renewable energy.
- Link and connection of internships for students
- Formation of renewable energy clubs in schools. To pilot some of the schools to see how the idea will be impactful.
- Support capacity building by recommending participants for training on renewable energy in India and other countries.

### **Submissions from Alisat Gule Wabomba from NCDC**

Mr. Wabomba once again appreciated the initiative and asserted that they are ready to emphasize skills development regarding renewable energy. She noted that they are in full support of all the suggestions and made it clear that they have been thinking about this but there isn't enough push from other partners.

She noted that in the current curriculum, content on renewable energy is a bit scanty and said that it should be an independent Programme for people to gain in-depth knowledge. Furthermore, she stated that one of the stumbling blocks is that renewable energy companies are not always willing to offer internship placements for students and more so she said that there are scenarios where they incur a lot of money to develop the courses but a few institutions are always willing to take up the courses.

She noted that renewable energy is an essential Programme that needs to be pushed to the limelight and emphasized that it is essential to identify clear areas of collaboration and support each other since their budget is limited. She noted that the major hindrance is limited resources.

Mr. Benard Janja from NCDC supplemented that energy efficiency should be emphasized in all sectors and raised a concern that in most cases gadgets imported and locally manufactured are inefficient. He stated that there should be a creation of awareness on energy efficiency. Finally, he noted that support is needed in curriculum review, internship placements and lobbying for funds.

### **Way Forward**

- The meeting agreed to work together and lobby for funds to boost the renewable energy sector.
- Review of the curriculum to see the level of renewable energy integration in the current curriculum.
- Introduction of certificates and diploma courses in Renewable Energy.
- The NCDC to share status reports on the current renewable energy content in the curriculum.
- The NCDC to identify institutions that are already focusing on renewable energy
- A memorandum of Understanding and implementation road map to be developed to guide the collaboration and make it more actionable.

### **Conclusion**

In conclusion, the chairperson noted that mass sensitisation is needed to create awareness of the benefits of skilling in renewable energy and training needs to be enhanced. She declared that NCDC is willing to collaborate because renewable energy is a sector of their interest and proposed that another meeting should be scheduled at a later date to agree on the terms and conditions of the collaboration.

### **List of participants**

	<b>Name</b>	<b>Sex</b>	<b>Institution</b>
1	Steven Nabende	M	NCDC
2	Ahamed Wakweya	M	NCDC
3	Benard Janja	F	NCDC
4	Babra Kembabazi	M	AFIEGO
5	Benard Mbaine	M	UNREEEA (IGEN-EA)
6	Gerald Barekye	F	Youth champion
7	Alisat Gule Wabomba	M	NCDC