



A PROCEEDINGS REPORT FOR THE AFIEGO MEETING WITH THE DIRECTORATE OF INDUSTRIAL TRAINING (DIT)



October 10, 2023,

DIT Head offices, Kyambogo

Introduction

On October 10, 2023, Africa Institute for Energy Governance (AFIEGO) supported youth to have a meeting with Directorate of Industrial Training (DIT) team. The objective of the meeting was to discuss initiatives to enhance knowledge and capacity in Renewable Energy (RE)& energy Efficiency (EE) at all education levels through skilling, Training of Trainers, and apprenticeship programmes.

Currently, the Ministry of Education and Sports (MoES) through DIT introduced skilling in vocational occupations at primary and secondary levels with the aim of enhancing learners' skills at an early age; however, this curriculum for skilling does not entail content on RE and EE which will keep Uganda lagging in terms of energy transition. This calls for combined efforts from relevant stakeholders to push for skilling in renewable energy to bridge the skills gaps in the energy sector.

The meeting was attended by AFIEGO, youth leaders and DIT team and it attracted eight (8) participants including four (4) women and four (4) men.

Meeting Proceedings

Opening remarks

Ms. Noeline Komugisha the chairperson welcomed members to the meeting and informed members that DIT is esteemed for promoting skilling in different sectors.

In addition, she appreciated AFIEGO for taking the initiative to partner with DIT in further development of the renewable energy sector.

Brief about AFIEGO

Ms. Diana Nabiruma from AFIEGO begun by thanking DIT 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.

Ms. Nabiruma 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, Ms. Nabiruma 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.

She informed meeting that AFIEGO has been working with youth to promote renewable energy in Uganda. She further said that Uganda's population is dominated by young people with over 78% being youth below the age of 30 years, therefore she said its strategic to involve youth in

renewable energy technologies to pave way for a green economy while also targeting at achieving SDG7. Further, she noted that wide use of renewable energy would greatly contribute to environmental conservation and improving people's livelihoods.

In conclusion, Ms. Nabiruma noted that integrating renewable energy courses in the education curriculum will absolutely 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 DIT

Ms. Komugisha gave a brief background about DIT and informed members that DIT is a quality Assurance body in the Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) sub-sector in the Ministry of Education and sports and has three departments which include;

- Qualification standard departments in charge of developing standards, assessment to identify gaps and economic activities.
- The assessment and certification department in charge of assessing and awarding certificates based on standards in the formal and informal sectors.
- The administrative department in charge of day today DIT activities.

She clarified that the core mandate of DIT is developing training materials which are always available on DIT website for the public.

Concerns discussed

- Members discussed the issue of skills gap in renewable energy sector and argued that there is a need to do a labor market survey to identify specific gaps in renewable energy so that training corresponds with standards that are developed to push the agenda to the next level in technology.
- Members noted that DIT is doing amazing work in skills development, especially in secondary schools and students are most likely to be job creators and not job seekers, which is a vital aspect, however renewable energy skilling has to be taken into consideration to drive energy transition in Uganda.
- Further, members raised a concern about whether DIT monitors the people who do training on renewable energy and other sectors to know if they have all the qualifications needed because many sectors do train without DIT's consent and in response the chairperson informed members that DIT has a mandate which it follows and the issue of monitoring the Standards of Trainers is done by another department in the Ministry of education and sports.
- In addition, members raised the issue of certification, it was noted that most people don't abide due to bypassing charges and more so customers don't do due diligence whether the service providers are certified or not.
- Furthermore, members noted that trainings on renewable energy are conducted across the country by different stakeholders but the issue of skills gaps is still persistent. Assessment to ascertain whether trainings in accordance with set standards to

overcome the challenge of skills gap is more needed.

- Members also highlighted that most trainers are not aware of the training materials developed by DIT which need to be disseminated to relevant stakeholders among others.

Way Forward

- DIT to provide the status report on standards available in regard to renewable energy training.
- Lobbying for seed funds to support DIT activities.
- Carry out labor market survey to identify the skills gaps in Renewable Energy and organize a workshop to discuss the findings.
- Carryout standards development
- Orientation of Trainers on the use of developed standards by DIT.
- Dissemination of developed Standards through media and other channels for the public.
- Creating awareness to make people understand the value of DIT certification.

Conclusion

Ms. Komugisha thanked members for their constructive proposals and for being a participative team. And informed everyone that after a certain progress on actionable points at later date members shall agree on the next meeting, after which the meeting was adjourned.

List of participants

No	NAME	Title/Organisation	EMAIL
1.	Noeline Komugisha	PQO/OS	komugishan@gmail.com .
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