

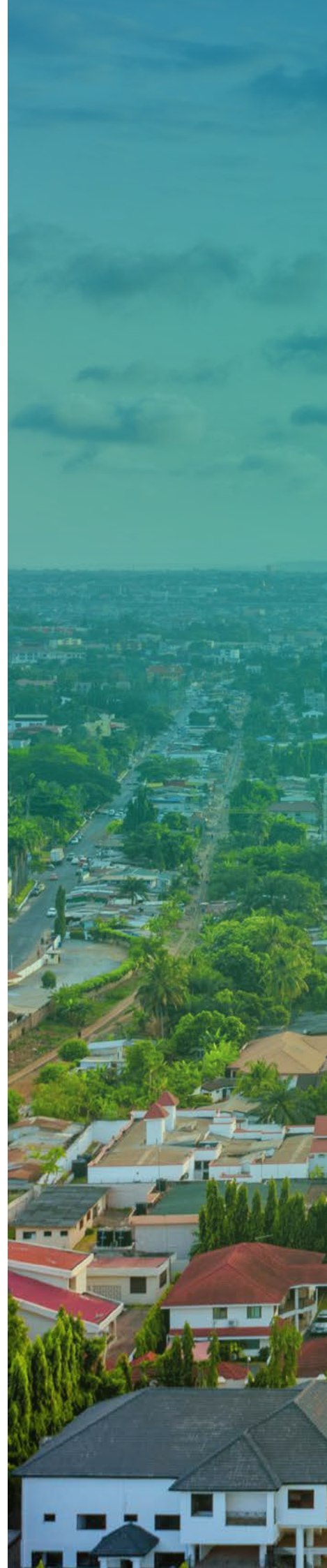
Renewable Energy Policy Action Plan Ghana

ACCELERATING GHANA'S
RENEWABLE ENERGY TRANSITION:
A LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY
PERSPECTIVE



TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Introduction	3
2. Renewable Energy Landscape in Ghana	5
2.1. Ghana – A Land of Renewable Energy Potential	5
2.2. Policy and Regulatory Basis	7
2.3. Legislative Guardrails	9
2.4. Private Sector Engagement (Challenges)	9
2.5. Regulatory Hurdles	10
2.6. Broader Market and Policy Challenges	10
3. Accelerating Uptake – Removing Barriers	12
3.1. Focus on Grid Modernisation	13
3.2. Simplify and Streamline Licensing Processes	13
3.3. Introduce Robust, Transparent Financial Incentives and De-Risking Instruments	14
3.4. Strengthen Regulatory Institutions and Capacity	16
3.5. Promote Private Sector Participation	17
3.6. Build Out Regional Systems	17
3.7. Enhance Public Awareness and Community Engagement	18
4. Looking Forward	19
5. Lexicon	21
6. List of References	22





Introduction

This Policy Action Plan examines Ghana's renewable energy landscape through a three-pronged approach: first, by assessing Ghana's substantial renewable energy potential alongside its current status; secondly, by identifying pathways to accelerate a just energy transition that balances economic development with environmental sustainability and social equity; and thirdly, by engaging directly with Parliamentarians and key stakeholders to pinpoint the legislative, regulatory, and institutional barriers that impede rapid renewable energy uptake.

Ghana's Energy Sector Today

Ghana's energy sector stands at a critical juncture. While the country has made laudable strides in electrification, reaching an 89% access rate (Republic of Ghana, 2025), its heavy dependence on thermal generation (66% of power generation) and hydropower (33%) exposes it to fuel price volatility, supply chain disruptions, and environmental risks (United States International Trade Administration, 2025). Renewable energy, currently only about 5% of the energy mix, presents a pathway to enhance energy security, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and foster economic resilience.

Ghana has announced achievable targets, notably increasing the share of renewable energy to 10% by 2030, as part of its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement. Ghana's energy transition is guided by multiple policies beyond the NDC including: the National Energy Policy (2010), the Renewable Energy Act (2011), the Mini-Grid Electrification Policy (2016), the Renewable Energy Masterplan (REMP) (2019), the Renewable Energy Act Amendment (2020), and the National Energy Transition Framework (2022), to name a few. While these policies are recent/updated and provide goals and targets that could be achievable, progress



Left: Ghana Climate Resilience Dialogue: Accelerating Ghana’s Renewable Energy Transition — Removing Barriers to Climate Resilience held on 3 March 2026 at the Parliament House, Accra, Ghana.

Below: IRENA Legislators Forum, 10 January 2026.

toward these targets remains slow, hindered by legislative, regulatory/systemic, and financial challenges.

This Policy Action Plan aims to provide an informed look at Ghana’s renewable energy landscape, existing targets and legislations, key challenges and opportunities, and actionable policy recommendations that can help support an accelerated and just energy transition, to ensure that the benefits of clean energy reach all segments of Ghanaian society, particularly vulnerable and underserved communities. For this paper, Ghana’s renewable energy journey has been reviewed through the lens of how Parliamentarians can be engaged to hasten the process. It draws on recent data, review of existing legislative frameworks and publications, desktop research supported by AI tools (Claude, Le Chat, and Perplexity AI), and importantly, direct insights from stakeholders including Members of Parliament, Regulators, Ministry officials, development community experts, private sector representatives, and civil society actors to inform a potential policy action plan for Ghana’s renewable energy future.

In particular, we want to acknowledge and thank the following for their engagement, insights, support and work on this topic, which helped inform this research: Mr. Ebenezer Ahumah Djietror, Clerk to Parliament of Ghana; Hon. Samuel Kwasi Bedzrah, MP and Chairman of Energy Committee; Hon. Isaac Adongo, MP and Chair of Finance Committee; Hon. Yaw Addo Frimpong, MP and Chairman of Environment Committee; Hon. Gizella Tetteh Agbotui, MP and Deputy

Minister for Water Resources, Works and Housing; Hon. Frank Annon Dompreeh, MP; Hon. Gideon Boako, MP; All Members of Joint Committees on Energy, Environment and Finance at the Parliament of Ghana; Ing. Seth Mahu, Director of Renewables, Ministry of Energy and Green Transition; Dr. Robert Sogbadji, Dep. Director Renewables, Ministry of Energy and Green Transition; Ing. Frederick Ken Appiah, Deputy Director of Renewables Regulation, Energy Commission of Ghana; Mr. Louis Boakyee Esq. Clerk to Energy and Environment Committees of Parliament; Mr. Ben Takyi Esq. Clerk to Finance Committee of Parliament; H.E. Ambassador Frederik Landshöft, Ambassador of Germany to Ghana; Mr. Gunnar Wegner, Project Manager Deutsche Gesellschaft für Zusammenarbeit (GIZ); Hon. Bärbel Höhn Chair of the Global Renewables Congress; Iliana Stefanova, IRENA; Israel Laryea Renewables Advocate and Influencer; Rachel Muddillo, Climate Vulnerable Forum; and numerous others.





Renewable Energy Landscape in Ghana

2.1. Ghana – A Land of Renewable Energy Potential

Ghana possesses a wealth of untapped renewable energy resources, positioning the country as a prime candidate for a sustainable energy transition. The nation boasts exceptional solar potential, with solar irradiation levels ranging from 4 to 6.5 kWh/m²/day, making it ideal for large-scale solar photovoltaic (PV) projects (Akpahou et al., 2023). Additionally, Ghana's coastal regions offer substantial wind energy potential, particularly in areas such as the Volta Region, where wind speeds are consistently favourable for commercial wind farms. The country also has significant biomass resources, derived from agricultural residues and waste, which can be harnessed for bioenergy and waste-to-energy projects. Additionally, while hydropower already plays a leading role in Ghana's energy mix, including large scale installations such as the Akosombo, Bui, and Kpong dams, there remains further potential for small-scale hydro and run-of-river projects, particularly in the northern regions. These could provide decentralised energy solutions for off-grid communities.

Access to international climate financing presents a critical opportunity for Ghana to mobilise the capital needed to unlock its renewable energy potential quickly. Global climate funds, such as the Green Cli-

mate Fund (GCF), as well as concessional financing from multilateral development banks offer avenues for securing low-interest loans, grants, and technical assistance. The issuance of green bonds is another emerging tool¹ that could attract private investment by providing a structured, sustainable financing mechanism for renewable projects. These financial instruments not only reduce the cost of capital for developers but also help mitigate the currency and investment risks that often deter private sector participation, both in-country and for international private sector actors.

Public-private partnerships are increasingly recognised as a viable strategy for accelerating renewable energy deployment in Ghana (Ghana Taskforce, 2018). By offering incentives such as tax breaks and power purchase agreements (PPAs) with guaranteed pricing, the government can de-risk investments and make projects more attractive to private developers. Innovative financing models, such as blended finance,

combining public, private, and philanthropic funds, can further lower the financial barriers for renewable energy projects – from small to larger scale. Additionally, instruments like partial risk guarantees and credit enhancements can provide private investors with the confidence needed to commit to long-term projects, particularly in a market where financial instability and currency fluctuations pose significant risks – whether actual or perceived.

Ghana’s participation in regional integration initiatives, such as the West African Power Pool (WAPP), where Ghana is a founding member, and ECOWAS renewable energy programmes, opens opportunities for cross-border energy trade and collaborative infrastructure development. In November 2025, WAPP successfully conducted an historic synchronisation test of the West African power grid – a crucial step towards regional energy integration (West African Power Pool, 2025).



First of its kind in Western Africa, the 5MWp Floating Solar PV System on the Bui reservoir, Ghana.

Photo Source:
www.buipower.com

1 Ghana issued its first green bond in early 2024. The USD 500 raised were allocated as follows: 40% for renewable energy projects (construction of solar farms and wind turbines); 30% to improve waste management systems (especially in urban areas); and 30% towards afforestation initiatives. See: The Rise of Green Bonds: Ghana’s Bold Step Towards Environmental Sustainability, <https://www.newsghana.com.gh/the-rise-of-green-bonds-ghanas-bold-step-towards-environmental-sustainability/>

Platforms like this will enable Ghana to leverage regional resources more efficiently, share best practices, and access larger markets for its renewable energy output. For instance, cross-border interconnections could allow Ghana to export excess renewable energy to neighbouring countries, creating revenue streams and enhancing energy security across the region. Regional cooperation also facilitates the pooling of technical expertise and financial resources, which can be instrumental in overcoming the infrastructure and regulatory challenges that individual countries might face alone.

Rapid advancements in renewable energy technologies offer Ghana the chance to bypass traditional energy systems and adopt more efficient, dependable, and sustainable solutions. Innovations in solar PV technology, including floating solar farms and bifacial panels, are increasing energy yields and reducing land-use conflicts.

Modern wind turbine designs are improving efficiency in low-wind conditions, expanding the viable areas for wind energy development. The deployment of battery energy storage systems (BESS) is critical for managing the intermittency of solar and wind power, ensuring grid stability, and enabling round-the-clock renewable energy supply. Increased and more widespread adoption of smart grid technologies will enable enhanced grid management, reduce energy losses, and integrate decentralised renewable energy sources more effectively. By embracing these technological innovations, Ghana can build a more resilient and efficient energy system that supports both economic growth and environmental stewardship.

2.2. Policy and Regulatory Basis

Ghana's commitment to expanding its renewable energy capacity is articulated in several key policy documents and strategic frameworks. The Renewable Energy Master Plan (REMP), a cornerstone of the country's renewable energy strategy, sets an ambitious target of achieving 1,363.63 megawatts (MW) of grid-connected renewable energy capacity by 2030. This represents a significant increase from the 42.5 MW recorded in 2015, reflecting Ghana's determination to scale up its renewable energy infrastructure (Global Energy Monitor Wiki, 2024). The REMP not only focuses on increasing capacity but also emphasises the diversification of renewable energy sources, including solar, wind, small hydro, and biomass, while aiming to reduce the country's historical dependence on traditional biomass for energy.

The National Energy Policy (NEP), initially instituted in 2010 and updated in 2021, provides broader strategic direction for Ghana's energy sector. It underscores the importance of energy security, affordability, and sustainability, positioning renewable energy as a critical component of the country's long-term energy mix. The policy highlights the need to integrate renewable energy into the national grid, promote off-grid solutions for rural electrification, and foster innovation in clean energy technologies. By aligning with global sustainability goals, the NEP seeks to ensure that Ghana's energy development is both inclusive and environmentally responsible. (Ministry of Energy, 2021)

Ghana's Mini-Grid Electrification Policy is an important policy piece in the country's broader strategy to achieve universal electricity access, particularly in rural and peri-rural communities that are economically unviable for national grid extension. The Mini-Grid Policy mandates the deployment of decentralised renewable energy mini-grids to electrify off-grid areas. The objective is to provide affordable, reliable,

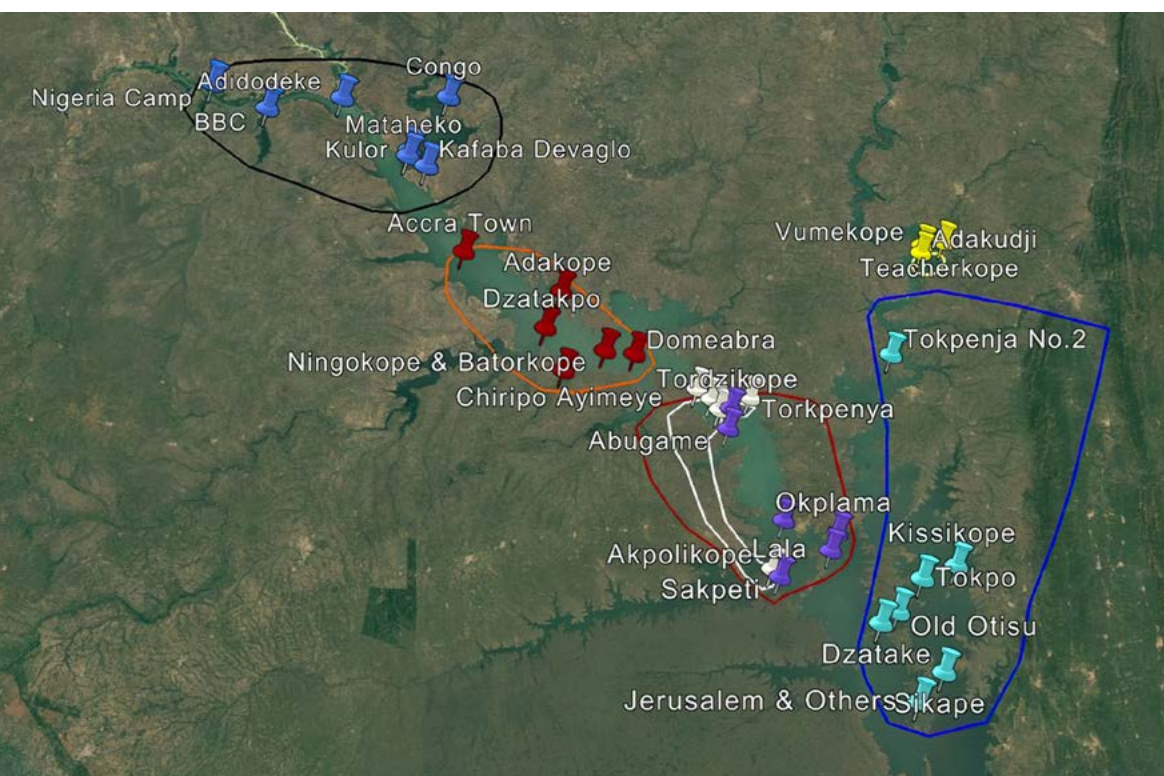
and sustainable electricity to communities without access, with a focus on lakeside and island communities, especially along the Volta Lake. By 2030, Ghana aims to achieve full electrification, and mini-grids are expected to play a critical role in closing the rural-urban access gap, which stood at 74% in rural areas versus 95% in urban centres as of 2021 (Fondation Nexans, 2025).

Progress has been steady but uneven. The Scaling-Up Renewable Energy Program (SREP) and the Ghana Energy Development and Access Project (GEDAP) have supported the installation of over thirty-five mini-grids, totalling approximately 4.25 MW of installed capacity, benefiting fifty-nine communities across nine districts. These systems are designed to be climate-resilient and community-managed, with tariffs structured to ensure affordability and sustainability (SREP Ghana, 2026).

Building out policies further, the National Energy Transition Framework (NETF) (2022–2070) outlines a long-term vision for Ghana’s transition to a low-carbon, climate-resilient energy system. This is designed to guide the country’s energy sector over the next five

decades, with a focus on decarbonisation, energy efficiency, and the adoption of renewable energy technologies. It sets out clear milestones for reducing greenhouse gas emissions, increasing the share of renewables in the energy mix, and enhancing energy access across the country. The framework also emphasises the importance of public-private partnerships, international cooperation, and innovative financing mechanisms to accelerate the energy transition (Sefa-Nyarko, 2024).

Together, policies such as the REMP, NEP, and NETF, form a forward-looking strategy for Ghana’s renewable energy future. They reflect the country’s commitment to achieving its Nationally Determined Contributions under the Paris Agreement, while also addressing domestic energy challenges such as grid reliability, energy affordability, and universal access to electricity. By pursuing measurable targets and revising its policies based on its abilities to deliver, Ghana aims to position itself as a leader in sustainable energy development in West Africa, fostering economic growth, environmental stewardship, and energy independence.



Mini-grids installed in underserved, off-grid areas along Lake Volta in Ghana.

Photo credit and more details here: <https://srepgh.com/Home/MiniGrid>

2.3. Legislative Guardrails

Ghana's legislative framework for renewable energy is anchored by two key laws: the Renewable Energy Act 2011 (Act 832) and the Energy Commission Act 1997 (Act 541). The Renewable Energy Act, amended in 2020 (Act 1045), serves as the primary legal instrument governing the development, licensing, and regulation of renewable energy in the country. It establishes a comprehensive framework that mandates the Energy Commission to oversee renewable energy planning, project licensing, tariff regulation, and the promotion of renewable energy technologies.

In Ghana's renewable energy sector, government agencies and Parliament collectively shape policy, regulations, and project execution. The Ministry of Energy and Green Transition leads national energy strategy and policy formulation, while the Energy Commission oversees licensing, regulatory compliance, and the promotion of renewable energy technologies. The Public Utilities Regulatory Commission (PURC) is responsible for setting tariffs, ensuring fair pricing, and safeguarding consumer interests. The Volta River Authority (VRA) manages large-scale power generation and grid integration, including hydropower and emerging renewable projects.

Ghana's Parliament exercises critical oversight by reviewing and approving energy policies, budgets, and legislative frameworks, ensuring accountability and alignment with national development goals. Together, these institutions form the backbone of Ghana's efforts to expand and diversify its energy mix.

2.4. Private Sector Engagement (Challenges)

The private sector in Ghana is a dynamic force in driving the country's renewable energy transition, with companies, such as Black Star Energy, BXC, Kofa, Lumos, Meinergy, and SolarTaxi as a few Ghanaian examples. Their efforts spanning utility scale projects to decentralised and pay as you go systems as well as battery swapping stations are not only expanding energy access but also creating jobs, fostering local entrepreneurship, and generating new economic opportunities across the country.

However, these actors face challenges that must be addressed to fully unlock their potential. Access to affordable and long-term financing remains a critical hurdle, as many renewable energy projects, particularly those led by independent power producers (IPPs) and renewable energy service companies (RESCOs), require substantial upfront capital for development, construction, and grid connectivity. While local financial institutions often charge interest rates in ranges of 21–37%, making borrowing incredibly costly, the lack of tailored financial products, such as green bonds, low-interest loans, or blended capital, further limits smaller companies' ability to secure the funding they need to scale (Ponkshe, 2022).

For foreign investors and developers, currency volatility and perceived risks can pose challenges, though the potential rewards are significant. International climate funds and development banks offer concessional financing, yet complex application processes and stringent eligibility criteria can slow progress for smaller firms. The absence of government-backed guarantees or risk mitigation tools, e.g., partial risk guarantees or venture and blended capital, also leaves developers exposed to financial uncertainties, particularly in off-taker agreements with state-owned utilities (Owusu-Mante, 2025).

2.5. Regulatory Hurdles

The regulatory environment in Ghana presents another layer of challenges for private sector participation. The licensing process, overseen by the Energy Commission, is criticised for being time-consuming, opaque, and bureaucratic. Delays in obtaining permits for project development, grid connection, and power purchase agreements (PPAs) can stretch for months or even years, increasing project costs and discouraging investment. The lack of standardised procedures for licensing and tariff approval further exacerbates these delays, creating uncertainty for developers (see inter alia Lexology Panoramic, 2022).

Another major regulatory challenge is the enforcement of PPAs and the creditworthiness of off-takers, particularly the Electricity Company of Ghana (ECG). ECG's financial instability and history of delayed payments to IPPs have made investors wary of entering long-term contracts. The absence of a robust dispute resolution mechanism for contractual disagreements between private developers and public utilities adds to the risk, as does the delayed operationalisation of the regulatory framework for feed-in tariffs and net metering, which are essential for incentivising small-scale renewable energy projects. (see inter alia Ohene-Akoto, 2025).

Further, land acquisition and community engagement processes can be fraught with difficulties. Disputes over land rights, compensation, and local opposition to projects, especially in rural areas with potentially complicated community dynamics, can stall or derail renewable energy developments. While the government has made efforts to streamline these processes, inconsistent enforcement of land-use policies and limited coordination between local and national authorities continue to pose significant obstacles. (Odoi-Yorke et al, 2025)

2.6. Broader Market and Policy Challenges

Beyond financing and regulation, private sector actors also contend with market-related challenges, such as limited grid capacity in some regions, which restricts the integration of new renewable energy projects. The lack of a well-developed local supply chain for renewable energy components, such as solar panels and batteries, increases project costs and dependency on imports. Policy inconsistencies, such as sudden changes in tax incentives or subsidies, can disrupt project planning and undermine investor confidence (Mahama et al, 2020).

Addressing these financing and regulatory hurdles is critical to unlocking the full potential of Ghana's private sector to drive and support the renewable energy transition. Targeted interventions, including simplified licensing procedures, access to affordable financing, stronger enforcement of PPAs, and improved coordination between government agencies and private developers, could significantly accelerate progress toward Ghana's renewable energy goals.

CASE IN POINT • Land Use

The Ghanaian government has made several efforts to streamline land acquisition and improve coordination for renewable energy projects, though challenges remain:

1 Land Acquisition for Large-Scale Projects

The government, through agencies such as the Bui Power Authority (BPA), has actively acquired land in northern Ghana for solar projects ranging from 50 to 100 MW, as well as for small hydro plants. These efforts are part of a broader strategy to expand renewable energy capacity and integrate it into the national grid. For example, BPA is currently developing solar projects and small hydro plants across the country, aiming to grow its total installed capacity to 1 GW (Sarpong, 2023).

2 Policy and Regulatory Reforms

The government has lifted moratoriums on licensing for renewable energy projects, such as the 2023 decision to allow private developers to apply for licenses to develop renewable energy generation projects for private use. This move is intended to encourage more private sector participation and streamline the approval process for new projects (United States International Trade Administration, 2025).

3 Coordination and Planning

Ghana's National Energy Transition Framework and Energy Transition and Investment Plan outline strategies for improving coordination among government agencies, utilities, and local communities. These plans emphasise the need for better alignment between national and local authorities to address land-use conflicts and ensure that renewable energy projects are developed in a sustainable and inclusive manner (Republic of Ghana, 2022).

4 Community Engagement and Local Development

Efforts have been made to involve local communities in renewable energy projects, both to secure land more smoothly and to ensure that projects benefit local populations. For instance, the development of solar and hydro projects in northern Ghana includes provisions for local job creation and infrastructure improvements, which can help reduce opposition and facilitate land acquisition (Sarpong, 2023).

Despite these positive efforts, inconsistent enforcement of land-use policies and limited coordination between local and national authorities continue to pose obstacles. The complexity of Ghana's land tenure systems, which often involve customary land rights, can lead to disputes and delays. Additionally, the lack of a fully standardised, transparent process for land acquisition and project approval remains a barrier, particularly for smaller developers and international investors (Kipkoeh et al, 2024).



Accelerating Uptake – Removing Barriers

To accelerate Ghana's transition to a sustainable and resilient renewable energy future effectively, work should continue towards comprehensive and actionable policy frameworks. Work should address the systemic barriers currently hindering progress and leverage the country's abundant renewable resources and RE potential, create lasting and strategic partnerships, and make better use of innovative financing mechanisms.

Reflecting inter alia various discussions and insights from public, private and civic society actors, the following recommendations provide a basis for discussion with a view to achieving renewable energy targets while fostering economic growth, energy security, climate justice, and environmental sustainability.

3.1. Focus on Grid Modernisation

Two critical steps that will hasten uptake are grid modernisation and energy storage deployment. Ghana's national grid requires substantial upgrades to accommodate the increasing penetration of variable renewable energy (VRE) sources, such as solar and wind. Efforts should prioritise smart grid technologies, demand-side management strategies, and the expansion of transmission infrastructure to regions with high renewable potential but limited grid access. Additionally, the deployment of battery energy storage systems (BESS) should be accelerated to mitigate intermittency issues and enhance grid stability. By synchronising these efforts with the project pipelines outlined in the REMP, Ghana can create a more resilient and adaptive energy system capable of supporting its long-term decarbonisation goals.



3.2. Simplify and Streamline Licensing Processes

The current licensing regime for renewable energy projects in Ghana is widely criticised for being bureaucratic, time-consuming, and lacking transparency, which deters both domestic and international investors. To address this, the Energy Commission could reform the licensing process, focusing on reducing administrative redundancies, shortening approval timelines, and providing clear, standardised guidelines for project developers. A one-stop shop for renewable energy project approvals, for example by integrating the functions of the Energy Commission, Environmental Protection Agency, and local government authorities, could improve both efficiency and investor confidence.

Digitalisation can play a pivotal role streamlining licensing processes. Implementing an online portal for licence applications, real-time tracking, and automated approvals for low-risk projects could reduce processing times, clearing the way for faster project timelines, which will further support investor confidence. Ghana could consider the introduction of fast-track approval mechanisms for small-scale and community-based renewable projects, including rooftop solar and mini-grids or community cooperatives, which would encourage broader participation in the sector. By fostering a more predictable and investor-friendly regulatory environment, Ghana can attract the private capital necessary to scale up its renewable energy capacity.

3.3. Introduce Robust, Transparent Financial Incentives and De-Risking Instruments

Access to affordable and long-term financing remains a significant barrier to renewable energy deployment in Ghana. To overcome this, the government can expand and diversify financial incentives to reduce the cost of capital and de-risk investments. Tax credits, capital subsidies, and production-based incentives, such as those outlined in the Renewable Energy Act (Act 832), should be fully implemented and regularly updated to reflect market conditions.

As indicated in early 2026, Ghana's Public Utilities Regulatory Commission has made adjustments to the feed-in tariff through the Multi Year Tariff Order (MYTO), which ensured a 20-year extension of the feed-in tariffs, with transparent pricing published by PURC including a quarterly tariff adjustment mechanism, to help ensure stability and predictability for utilities and consumers (International Monetary Fund, 2025). This current MYTO will cover the 2026–2030 time period.

Additionally, Ghana has begun the national roll-out of net metering, deploying 3,600 systems in 2025 (planned are 12,000 net-metered solar systems), empowering consumers, i.e., households, businesses, and public institutions, to invest in their own electricity systems by providing them a process to feed excess power back into the grid (Aryeetey, 2025). Policies such as these can be strengthened and expanded to provide revenue certainty for project developers, particularly for small-scale and off-grid renewable energy systems, which help to reduce grid strain.

To further mitigate investor risk, Ghana should leverage sovereign guarantees, partial risk guarantees, and put-call option agreements and off-taker payment defaults, which can protect developers against currency fluctuations and other financial uncertainties. A regional example that may be a model is seen in Senegal, which employs sovereign guarantees and tax exemption through its Scaling Solar programme (Whitlock, 2025).





Development finance institutions such as the African Development Bank, with its African Development Fund Partial Risk Guarantee instrument is an example of a collaborative effort to both entice and shield private investors and lenders from defaults. A key example is the Lake Tarkana Wind Power Project in Kenya, where the AfDB provided a partial risk guarantee of 20m EUR (African Development Bank, 2019).

The establishment of the Renewable Energy Investment and Green Transition Fund (REIGT), which could be capitalised through a mix of public funds, international climate finance, and private sector contributions, could provide blended financing for high-potential projects. Once operational, it will be important to observe what kind of funding will be possible under the fund. A fund such as this could offer concessional loans, equity investments, and credit enhancements, making renewable energy projects more attractive to commercial banks and institutional investors. By reducing the perceived risks associated with renewable energy investments, these instruments can unlock significant private sector participation and accelerate project deployment. The REIGT seems to be not fully publicly visible at time of writing, but is an important development in transition financing (see inter alia Ghana Chamber of Clean Energy, 2026)

Lastly, to help instil investor confidence and ensure fiscal stability across government spending, Ghana has addressed the need to restructure debt. Debt restructuring coupled with structural reforms directly contribute to boosting investor confidence. These efforts, for example an agreement with nine IPPs on a comprehensive repayment of legacy arrears, coupled with reforms in the energy sector (e.g., tariff adjustments), allow for improved revenue administration. This creates a more stable environment for existing and planned projects. These efforts will contribute to improved credit ratings, lowering the cost of borrowing, help attract private capital and support long-term project viability (International Monetary Fund, 2025).

3.4. Strengthen Regulatory Institutions and Capacity

The effectiveness of Ghana’s renewable energy policies hinges on the capacity and enforcement capabilities of its regulatory institutions. The Energy Commission, PURC, and other relevant agencies must be equipped with the technical expertise, financial resources, and operational autonomy needed to fulfil their mandates effectively. This includes enhancing monitoring and enforcement mechanisms to ensure compliance with licensing requirements, tariff regulations, and environmental standards. Regular training programs and knowledge-sharing initiatives, in collaboration with international partners such as the World Bank, African Development Bank, and German Development Agency, can help develop local expertise in renewable energy technologies, project management, and regulatory best practices.

Inter-agency coordination is equally critical. The Ministry of Energy and Green Transition could consider establishing a permanent coordination platform involving the Energy Commission, PURC, VRA and other stakeholders to align policies, resolve conflicts, and streamline decision-making. This platform could also facilitate joint planning and resource mobilisation, ensuring that renewable energy projects are developed in a cohesive and sustainable manner. By strengthening institutional capacity and fostering collaboration, Ghana can create a more transparent, efficient, and accountable regulatory environment.

Parliamentarians, as part of their committee reviews, serve as performance checks on the progress of the energy regulatory bodies. MPs can advocate for and allocate dedicated budget lines to strengthen regulatory capacity, for example funding for technical training, better enforcement tools and capacity, or better and more efficient interagency cooperation platforms. As champions for legislative reforms that can simplify licensing processes and enforce environmental standards, for example, Parliamentarians are uniquely responsible for shaping the enabling frameworks necessary for the energy transition.



3.5. Promote Private Sector Participation

The private sector has a pivotal role to play in driving Ghana’s renewable energy transition, but its potential remains constrained by financial, regulatory, and market barriers. To address this, the government should consider how to include public-private partnerships (PPPs) as core elements to further project development. Transparent procurement processes, competitive bidding, and standardised power purchase agreements (PPAs) can instil confidence in private investors and ensure fair market competition. The expansion of net-metering and self-generation policies, allowing commercial and industrial consumers to generate their own renewable energy and sell excess power back to the grid, would further incentivise private sector engagement.

Access to international climate finance and donor funds is another critical enabler. Ghana should work closely with multilateral development banks, climate funds, and impact investors to secure concessional financing, grants, and technical assistance for private sector-led projects. Initiatives such as the Scaling Up Renewable Energy Program (SREP), a programme in the Climate Investment Funds (CIF) framework dedicated to 27 countries globally including Ghana, and the Global Environment Facility could provide valuable support for innovative financing models, such as green bonds and blended finance structures using below-market capital (CIF, 2021). CIF is country led, so Ghana can develop programmes based on country need and aligned with national priorities. This approach can help Ghana to harness in-country entrepreneurial drive and technical expertise of the private sector to accelerate its renewable energy deployment.

3.6. Build Out Regional Systems

Regional interconnections also offer significant opportunities. By participating in cross-border electricity trade through platforms such as the West African Power Pool (WAPP), Ghana can enhance its energy security, optimise resource utilisation, and create new revenue streams through renewable energy exports. Strengthening regional cooperation with neighbouring countries such as Côte d’Ivoire, Burkina Faso, and Togo, can facilitate the sharing of best practices, joint infrastructure development, and collaborative financing for renewable energy projects. These efforts would not only improve grid resilience but also position Ghana as a regional leader in sustainable energy.



3.7. Enhance Public Awareness and Community Engagement

Public support is a critical enabler for the successful deployment of renewable energy projects. The government should launch nationwide education and awareness campaigns to highlight the economic, environmental, and social benefits of renewable energy, addressing misconceptions and fostering a culture of sustainability. This is a clear opportunity for Parliamentarians to bring this knowledge and messaging into their constituencies, to create grassroots support for renewable uptake, citing its economic importance and highlighting the community benefits.

Community engagement is particularly important for projects located in rural or underserved areas. Parliamentarians could collaborate with developers to involve local stakeholders in project planning, benefit-sharing, and decision-making processes. This could include job creation initiatives, skills training programs, and local content requirements, ensuring that communities directly benefit from renewable energy developments. By building trust and social licence, Ghana can minimise opposition to projects and create a more inclusive and equitable energy transition. Parliamentarians, as stewards and representatives of their communities, are ideally situated to ensure adequate community engagement during and not after project development.



Ghana Civic Society

Civic society organisations are engaged in ensuring that climate justice is not forgotten in the process of Ghana's just energy transition. In addition to local offices from international organisations, Ghana has its own local civic society as well. For example:

Friends of the Nation work to enhance social accountability and human rights in the governance of natural resources, e.g., water and land, as well as work with women and youth on training, policy advocacy, and enterprise development, especially in the coastal communities.

The Centre for Indigenous Knowledge and Organizational Development (CIKOD) focuses on community-led development that respects and builds on local cultures and resource bases (including natural resources). They work to incorporate and empower the voices of poor and vulnerable rural communities in development processes.

The Ghana Youth Environmental Movement (GYEM) advocates for the review and enforcement of Ghana's Renewable Energy Act, by pushing for policies that support sustainable energy, community-led projects, and fair land use agreements.



4

Looking Forward

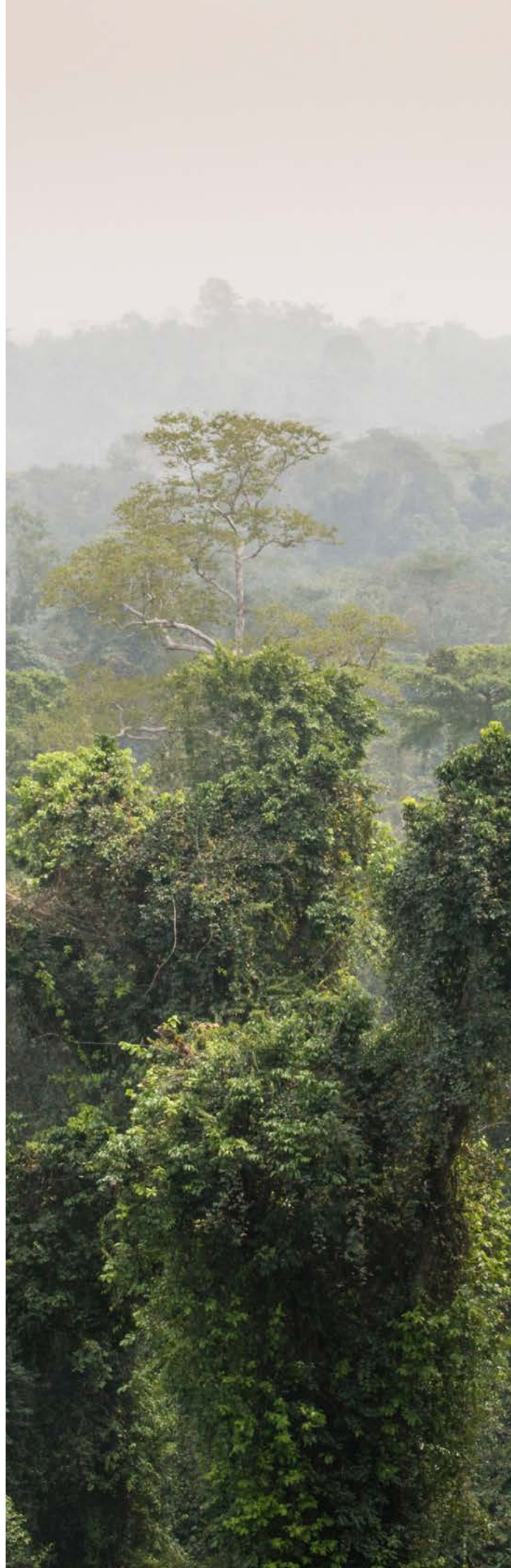
Ghana is on the verge of entering a new era of energy, where its sunshine, wind and biomass resources could be used to power a fair, inclusive, and sustainable future. Ghana's renewable energy potential is a strategic asset that can drive economic growth, create jobs, and secure energy independence for generations to come, not merely a technical possibility. However, realising this vision requires more than ambitious policies; it demands decisive, coordinated action from all stakeholders. Parliamentarians are in a prime position to play a central, catalytic role in shaping, championing, and accelerating Ghana's energy transition.

Parliamentarians are uniquely positioned to bridge the gap between policy and practice. They can mobilise resources, raise public awareness, and ensure that renewable energy policies benefit all of Ghana's citizens. By championing community-level renewable projects, advocating for streamlined licensing and holding institutions accountable for enforce-

ment, MPs can transform Ghana's legislative frameworks into tangible benefits for citizens, particularly in rural and underserved areas. By leading the way in passing robust financial incentives such as modern feed-in tariffs and tax credits, and by securing de-risking instruments such as sovereign guarantees, MPs can help unlock private investment and foster a thriving renewable energy market. Furthermore, Parliamentarians can promote regional cooperation by easing access to and leveraging platforms such as the West African Power Pool to establish Ghana as a net exporter of clean energy and a leader in regional sustainability.

This transition is not just an environmental imperative; it is also an economic and social one. By prioritising renewable energy, Ghana can reduce its reliance on volatile fossil fuel imports, cut greenhouse gas emissions, and generate manufacturing, installation, and maintenance jobs. The benefits will be felt across society, from cleaner air in cities, to reliable electricity in Tamale, to mini-grids electrifying rural communities, to empowered local entrepreneurs and a more resilient national grid.

As Parliamentarians work to remove barriers, create more efficient processes and pursue community-relevant development, Ghana can turn its renewable energy potential into a national success story for the African continent that delivers energy security, economic opportunity, and environmental stewardship for generations to come.



5. Lexicon

Abbreviation	Name
AfDB	African Development Bank
BESS	Battery Energy Storage Systems
CIF	Climate Investment Funds Framework
CPP	Climate Prosperity Plan
CVF	Climate Vulnerable Forum
ECG	Electricity Company of Ghana
GEDAP	Ghana Energy Development and Access Project
IPP	Independent Power Producers
MYTO	Multi Year Tariff Order
NAP	National Action Plan of Ghana
NDC	Nationally Determined Contributions
NEP	National Energy Policy of Ghana
NETF	National Energy Transition Framework
PPA	Power Purchasing Agreements
PURC	Public Utilities Regulatory Commission
REIGT	Renewable Energy Investment & Green Transition Fund
REMP	Renewable Energy Master Plan
RESCo	Renewable Energy Service Companies
SREP	Scaling Up Renewable Energy Program in Low Income Countries
VRA	Volta River Authority
WAPP	West African Power Pool

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