Proceedings at the BMU/IKI National Project Launch & Workshop on Renewable Energy Initiatives

Theme: "Ensuring People-Centred Energy Transition in Africa through Robust Civil Society Engagements"

Organised by: Pan-African Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA) / African Coalition for Sustainable Energy Access (ACSEA) / Environmental Rights Action/Friends of the Earth Nigeria (ERA/FoEN) /Lift Humanity Foundation (LHF) / GermanWatch

Funded by: German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (BMUV) / International Climate Initiative (IKI)

Venue: Reiz Continental Hotel, Abuja
Date: April 19-20, 2022

Contents

GENERAL INTRODUCTION

The Pan African Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA) and Africa Coalition for Sustainable Energy Access (ACSEA), in collaboration with Environmental Rights Action/Friends of the Earth Nigeria (ERA/FoEN) and Lift Humanity Foundation (LHF), are launching the project themed: "Ensuring a people-centred energy transition in Africa through civil society engagement", which ERA/FoEN is implementing for PACJA in Nigeria.

The project aims to strengthen civil society actors to influence national and regional policies on renewable energy that respond to the energy needs of the masses and contribute to reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (BMUV) is funding the project through the International Climate Initiative (IKI).

Sustainable energy access is said to be a crucial variable in addressing material and structural poverty. Yet, Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) now has the highest concentration of people without energy access. Currently, around 580 million in the region, roughly 75% of worldwide estimates, have no electricity (IEA, 2019). And a staggering 80% of the population (about 800 million people) lacks access to modern energy and relies on biomass products such as wood, charcoal, and dung to cook.

In Nigeria, less than 30 per cent of the 200 million population have access to uninterrupted electricity, based on the national grid system. It is primarily unreliable and has yet to reach many communities. As a result, energy demand outstrips supply.

The limited participation of CSOs in energy policy development and investment decisions has led to poor accountability and weak monitoring, reporting and verification (MRV) frameworks as envisioned in the Paris Agreement. Many REIs in Africa and Nigeria are opaque, uncoordinated, and often exclude important stakeholders, particularly CSOs.

This situation leaves room for redundant efforts, programmes, and project duplications, a narrow focus on specific RE solutions and countries, and the absence of independent monitoring and tracking of performance. In turn, these shortcomings undermine the effectiveness of these otherwise laudable REIs in delivering transformative and sustainable energy access, especially for the bottom of the societal pyramid.

This project intends to strengthen the role of CSOs and CBOs in promoting and implementing sustainable energy transition initiatives and renewable energy

related NDC commitments in five (5) African countries, including Nigeria. The project aims to equip CSOs and CBOs with skills, knowledge and tools to engage in renewable energy policy development and programme implementation monitoring and strengthen their voice at the local, continental and global levels.

The project will also ensure that CSOs and CBO engagements are more coordinated under an empowered and supported African Coalition for Sustainable Energy Access (ACSEA). The Nigeria PACJA-ACSEA platform hosted by ERA/FoEN will contribute to reform and ensure people-centred just energy transition and civil engagement.

– DAY ONE –

SESSION 1: *Opening of the meeting*

- *The workshop poster*

The meeting commenced around 9:30am when the facilitator, Chinenye Anekwe, a gender and energy expert, introduced the project and listed out the day's programme.

Dr. Godwin Uyi Ojo, National Coordinator of ACSEA and Executive Director, ERA/FoEN, led the opening prayers.

This was followed by a session whereby participants introduced themselves, and then proceeded to append their signatures on a poster inscribed with “I support Sustainable Energy Access & Governance in Nigeria”.

- *An official of NAPTIN signing the project promotional poster*

- *Dr Augustine Njamnshi signing the project promotional poster*

SESSION 2: *Welcome/Keynote Remarks*

Dr Godwin Uyi Ojo (National Coordinator of ACSEA and Executive Director, ERA/FoEN)

- *Dr Godwin Uyi Ojo*

Welcoming participants to the event, Dr Ojo submitted that the focus on alternative pathways to Just Energy Transition embodies the vision of ACSEA, which is energy transition that are people centred. He said that due to the low participation in the decision-making process on renewable energy initiatives, the prime focus of the project is the promotion of renewable energy access in Nigeria. According to him, clean energy access is limited due to energy poverty.

He added that the ACSEA project launch is important to address issues of energy governance to allow for decentralized energy systems that are socially driven and promotes community energy in off-grid, mini-grid and standalone systems.

He said: “There is the need for capacity building and training for civil society to have a strong voice in the decision-making process and influence policy change for renewable energy. An inclusive energy governance system that allows

citizens and vulnerable groups as part of decision making in energy governance is central to the goal of just energy transition. We strongly believe that only through decentralized energy systems that energy poverty can best be tackled and solved.

“This cannot happen unless driven by people and CSOs different from business initiatives which exists solely for returns on investment and profits. Another priority area is giving a strong boost to local capacity for local manufacturing of renewable energy gadgets. This is to promote technological advancement in the renewable energy sector and the generation of green jobs through greener technologies to avoid energy Colonialism of Nigeria and Africa as a dumping ground for all sorts of technologies.

“Furthermore, the multilateral processes and renewable energy initiatives currently on-going in Nigeria and Africa lack effective coordination. We will build capacities and develop monitoring tool to monitor the level of coordination, country level performance and impact on citizens.”

Launching the civil society Nigeria ACSEA platform, Ojo called on everyone to support a just energy transition that are people centred.

Dr Augustine B. Njamnshi (Executive Director, ACSEA)

- *Dr Augustine Njamnshi*

He added that it is better for Africans to tell their stories themselves, as Africa has peculiar problems, can articulate the issues and bring before the international space.

Similarly, he noted, ACSEA was created in Egypt at AMCEN in 2016 to have an African movement that articulates energy issues from an African perspective.

He said: “Energy poverty in sub-Saharan Africa is acute. Climate change has compounded the energy situation. Covid came and further compounded the situation. Health centres could not store vaccines because the didn’t have electricity. Why not invest in something that can promote access – which is renewable energy?”

He identified governance as the problem, which he said should be addressed, adding that that is why ACSEA is supporting the project. “If we get it right in Nigeria, we will get it right in Africa,” he said, adding that he is impressed with the news that NAPTIN trains people on renewable energy.

On COP27 that is scheduled to hold in November 2022 in Egypt, Dr. Njamnshi described the COP as very critical because, according to him, African CSOs want it to be an African People’s COP, one targeting issues of Africans, and Africans being at the forefront propagating their issues.

“Let us bring our issues on the table; we are fighting, resisting, and also bringing up solutions. The COP is throughout the year, and this meeting is part of the preparations for the COP.”

Mr Ahmed Bolaji Nagode (Director General, National Power Training Institute of Nigeria – NAPTIN)

- *Mr Ahmed Bolaji Nagode*

Mr Nagode described sustainable energy as energy that meets the needs of the present generations without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. He described sustainable energy sources as the best sources of energy for homes and businesses because they are not only renewable but are also frequently developed closer to the end-user than are traditional power plants.

Saying that the world is making progress towards Goal 7, with encouraging signs that energy is becoming more sustainable and widely available, he emphasised that, nevertheless, more focused attention is needed to improve access to clean and safe cooking fuels and technologies to expand the use of renewable energy beyond the electricity sector, and to increase electrification in sub-Saharan Africa.

In order to achieve a just energy transition that is sustainable and people-oriented, Nagode stressed that active participation of the CSOs and CBOs in the sphere of influence of these REIs is highly needed to ensure buy-in, and prevent external interest from directing and dominating the space.

He added that this will also bring about a Monitoring, Reporting, and Verification (MRV) initiative that could track Nigeria's NDC, SDGs

implementation, and SE4LL (Green Bond Initiative and rural electrification) established.

The D-G stated that the Environmental Rights Action/Friends of the Earth Nigeria (ERA/FoEN) can always count on the NAPTIN's readiness and commitment, as a strategic partner and ally, to support its efforts at any level and at any time, especially through capacity building on Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency.

Mr Huzi Mshelia (Clean Energy Consult)

- *Mr Huzi Mshelia*

Making reference to his outfit, Mr Mshelia said in his brief goodwill remarks that the organisation deals in energy issues, climate change, poverty alleviation and sustainability simultaneously.

In executing the ACSEA project, he advised the promoters to keep certain things in mind, like: what is the context? What is the clarity of the outcome? What is the clarity of the pathway, and how do we get there?

Prof. Eli Jidere Bala (Director General, Energy Commission of Nigeria)

- *Prof. Eli Jidere Bala*

Represented by Mr Acheme Paul Inalegwu, Prof. Bala described the Energy Commission of Nigeria (ECN) as the apex arm of the government with mandate for the strategic planning and co-ordination of National Policies in the field of energy in all its ramifications.

The commission, he added, is concerned with access to sustainable energy by all, promoting renewable energy and energy efficiency.

Emphasising that the grassroots need to be engaged and taught, he said that this is where civil society organisations are important, such that the village women, the laymen, the unreached people will be reached in the efficient use of energy and renewable energy technology.

He added that the project being launched to ensure people-centred energy transition in Nigeria through the engagement of various groups (CSOs ad CBOs) is laudable and commendable.

SESSION 3: *ACSEA Project Launch*

Eugene Nforngwa (Programme Director, ACSEA) – *Project overview and outcomes 2022-2023*

- *Eugene Nforngwa*

Speaking on "Ensuring a People-Centered Energy Transition in Africa Through Civil Society Engagement" wherein he attempted a summary of the initiative, Mr Nforngwa said that the project aims to strengthen civil society's role in promoting and implementing sustainable energy transition initiatives, including renewable energy-related NDC commitments in Africa.

He added that it will equip CSOs to influence renewable energy policy development and strengthen domestic, continental, and global voices in five (5) countries. The primary target groups of this project are African civil society organisations working on climate change and renewable energy, he stated, adding that the project will enable them to engage in a more coordinated and effective manner on issues concerning sustainable energy initiatives on the continent.

The secondary target group, said he, is decision makers in Africa, namely government officials from relevant ministries and agencies and

parliamentarians. Other target groups are stakeholders involved in renewable energy development and decision-makers in donor countries.

He noted that the project's objectives will be achieved through i) training and the development of information materials on renewable energy technology and policy options; ii) strengthening an effective African civil society network on renewable energy; iii) and the development of a monitoring tool that will allow civil society to independently track the progress of the sustainable energy initiatives on the continent.

He disclosed that project is aimed at addressing challenges such as low energy/electricity access, high health and nature risks associated with use of traditional energy sources, poor coordination and limited broad-based participation from CSOs and communities, redundant efforts, program and project duplications, narrow focus on a few RE solutions, and absence of independent means of monitoring and tracking performances.

He said: “These shortcomings undermine the effectiveness of RE initiatives in delivering transformative and sustainable energy access, especially for the poor. A robust civil society movement actively shaping policy development and providing oversight is needed to minimise these risks.”

Project Cake Cutting Ceremony

- *Participants cutting the project cake*

- *The project cake*

Tea Break, Media session and group photograph

- *Group photograph of participants*

- *Dr Augustine Njamnshi at a media session*

SESSION 4: *Inception Workshop*

Eugene Nforngwa (Programme Director, ACSEA) – *Project overview and outcomes 2022-2023*

Speaking further on the Project overview and outcomes 2022-2023, he described the project as an opportunity to engage with decision makers and policy makers, which he described as people in a position to determine policy, such as directors, lawmakers, and anyone in public office.

He said that there would be a total of five (5) meetings, one in the first year, two in the second year, and three in the third year of the project.

He said the project would conduct an assessment of the governance and potential for renewable energy in Nigeria, determining the situation, identifying gaps, and developing an advocacy strategy based on the things learnt.

He added that the project would likewise monitor government action around renewable energy, look at the NDC committments and articles on renewable energy issues.

Speaking on Countdown to COP27, he explained that after a recent meeting in Cairo, there was the development of an advocacy framework to galvanise African voices to develop a Peoples COP for Africa. He added that PACJA is present in 51 African countries with over 1,000 organisations.

Afanyu Yambe (Head of Communications, ACSEA) – *Communication Map for the IKI project*

He started by defining Communication Objectives, saying that the objective of communicating is to create awareness of both what is being done and what has been done, to get people on board and in summary to foster access to information.

He listed the Communication Strategies to include: Printed (brochures, flyers, billboards), Social media campaigns, Campaign launch event, and Mainstream Media.

According to him, reference to the funding receive from IKI and BMU should be made in publications, reports, website, information stands, events and work with the media, adding that a statement must be stated regarding the funders.

He disclosed that the BMU logo must be included in all print and online publications as well as other media used in PR work (banners, signs, etc.). Depending on the project type, the logo must be preceded either by "Supported by" (for grant recipients) or "On behalf of" (for contractors).

Yambe stressed that due to the election in Germany, the ministerial responsibility for IKI projects is not finally clear at the moment and that ACSEA are still waiting for the final confirmation for the future logo use.

He cautioned that, before starting work on an IKI project, all implementing organizations in all countries should contact their local German embassy and inform embassy staff about relevant project activities, especially as these relate to the public promotion of the project.

Social Media engagement, he said, would be key in the promotion of the work to be done. He added that it is thus imperative that, in all communications surrounding the project, the following accounts should be tagged: @acsea_54, @iki_germany, @pacja1, @Germanwatch, and @christian_aid.

Hashtags to be used were listed to include: #SustainableEnergy, #RenewableEnergy, #ClimateChange, #ClimateCrises, #EnergyForThePeople, and #JustFutures4Africa.

He said that a newsletter, titled "Bio News", will be available both digital and physical. He encouraged participants to write and send articles to communications@acsea54.org, so that it can be included in the newsletter.

SESSION 5: *General Discussions*

Pius Oko (LHF PACJA/ACSEA)

Everyone should be in the centre of the energy discussion. We need energy access and energy democracy.

- We must mainstream those left out and the pro poor
- Dig out evidence to influence policy
- Monitor implementation
- Need for accountability.

All these will grant the energy access, in terms of accessibility and affordability.

We need to open discussions on are to be done and done differently. How do we change our engagements for the better?

Lucky Abeng (CSDevNet)

I want the implementing team to look at the various document government has in place. These will be key to influence policy. To achieve energy access, it will boil down to politics.

A Contributor

We should move beyond talk and help communities to develop their own self-reliant energy.

Damaris Uja (Women Environmental Programme – WEP)

For communities, look into processes to build on, instead of replicating work with the private sector. Concerning the upcoming COP27, look into the risks and assumptions. If ideas are not bought, what will be our contributions?

Dr Elizabeth Jeiyol (GERI)

It's time to leverage on our strengths and weaknesses. How do we mobilise and sustain, and organise people, and get them to key into the message? We need to get everybody included, and no one should be left behind.

Dr Gloria Chinwe (NEST)

She expressed interest in indigenous peoples, saying that energy is of various aspects. According to her renewable energy is a way to use nature-based solutions to achieve their aim. We should look inwards, she stated, adding that the target community may simply need wood biomass. "They may simply need woodlots to sustain themselves. Energy that can be derived from natural sources by and for indigenous groups of people."

Helen Okeke (NAPTIN)

Let's also focus on capacity building. We need to train them on how to manage and maintain the energy.

Nosa Tokunbor (ERA/FoEN)

Emphasise at different levels of energy transition. It should be seen from the perspective of people and their background. There must be a way to locally made energy sources, and we must look to understand their energy type. To enable the community to understand the technology we're talking about now, there are more locally driven technological gadgets.

Shiro Olawale (HEDA Resource Centre)

What are the implications of illicit financial flows on developments in the country? If the project is able to bring up different scenarios, where do we hope to be? There should be a combination of knowledge.

Chinonso Agbo (Chief Operating Officer, Schrodinger Greentech Limited)

If we don't look at the core enablers, the key frameworks, the platforms that the capacity to run on, it will be difficult to transform to anything. How have we

been able to translate the policy to what is already being implemented? If we have the enablers working, every other thing can be stacked and further developed.

Dr Godwin Uyi Ojo (National Coordinator of ACSEA and Executive Director, ERA/FoEN)

What can you do to build up the ACSEA platform for Nigeria? It should not be another platform existing just in name. Let's commit to contribute and be a part of this process. It involves a lot of human and capital resources. We need to work together and use this platform for action.

Dr Augustine B. Njamnshi (Executive Director, ACSEA)

ACSEA is movement. If we get it right in Nigeria, the tendency is that we will get it right in Africa. Delivery of the goods is important; the more you deliver, the more you have projects. PACJA started with challenges, but it weathered the storm. But, today, PACJA is a machine that can no longer be ignored.

Chinenye Anekwe (Facilitator)

She appreciated everyone for their contributions and closed the session by 16:37 hrs.

– DAY TWO –

SESSION 1: *Opening of the meeting*

The meeting commenced around 9:27am when the facilitator, Chinenye Anekwe, a gender and energy expert, attempted a recap of the previous day's deliberations. She recalled the launch of ACSEA, what the project is all about, its background, what it stands for, its vision & mission, project objectives, activities, frameworks, monitoring and evaluation tools, tools of communication, and what is expected of the participants as CSOs.

She added that the day's assignment revolves around synthesising areas with loops.

SESSION 2: *Workshop*

Stanley Igwebuike Ijeaoma (Nigeria Country Representative, World Council for Renewable Energy – WCRE) – *Renewable energy policy and programmes in Nigeria: Options for financing and scale up of investment in NDC targets*

Mr Ijeaoma began by saying that Nigeria is facing the need for larger electricity supply and improved grid reliability and security, adding that, in order to achieve a rapid transition to a low carbon economy, significant decarbonization of the energy sector is necessary.

He listed Renewable Energy Policy and Programmes in Nigeria to include: the National Energy Policy (NEP, 2003), Renewable Energy Master Plan (REMP, 2005), Renewable Energy Policy Guidelines (REPG, 2006), Captive Energy Generation Regulations (CEGR, 2008), Renewable Energy Master Plan (REMP, 2013), National Renewable Energy Efficiency Policy (NREEP, 2013), National Renewable Energy & Energy Efficiency Policy (NREEEP, 2015), National Energy Efficiency Action Plans (NEEAP, 2015–2030), Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission Regulation For Mini-grids (2016), Energy for All – Mass Rural Electrification Programme,

He pointed out, however, that mobilizing financing for renewable energy has been faced with numerous barriers and risks, especially in developing countries.

While shedding some light options for finance and scale-up of renewable energy investment in Nigeria, he explained that both the Nigerian government, multilateral donors and private investors have predominantly channeled energy investments into financing centralized thermal power plants and hydroelectric projects while investing insignificant amounts into solar and wind.

He stressed that, between 2008 and 2016, while USD 345 million aid funding was funneled to gas-fired power plants, only about USD 34 million was directed to solar electricity development.

He stressed that, to advance the global energy transformation in the post COVID era, investment in renewable energy needs to be scaled up significantly and urgently.

This, he added, can be achieved via: Financial Frameworks, Blended Financing, Green bonds and sustainability-linked bonds, Adopting green monetary policies, PPP's, and Clean Technology Fund.

He stated that the Africa Renewable Energy Scale-up Facility (ARE Scale Up) Guarantee Fund provides guarantees to support equity investments in off-grid, minigrid and other decentralized solutions as well as technical assistance for beneficiary companies and for the implementation of the guaranteed component.

As a way forward, Ijeoma urged the Nigerian government to develop/enforce RE project development incentives to ramp up RE projects implementation. For instance, the government guarantee of premium payment for RE electricity generated with private capital will incentivize private capital investment in RE projects development.

Festus Eguaoje (Director, National Power Training Institute of Nigeria – NAPTIN) – *Driving energy access through local renewable energy technology*

Mrs Helen Okeke, who made the presentation on behalf of Mr Festus Eguaoje, spoke on "Driving Energy Access Through Local Renewable Energy Technology". On energy access, she stated that Nigerians still experience acute energy poverty as a result to lack of access to energy sources or inadequate supply and poor quality, which has affected livelihoods by lowering quality of life and hurting the economy.

According to her, statistics state that about 40% of Nigerians have access to electricity from the national grid, some many people rely on dirty biomass fuels such as charcoal, coal and animal waste for cooking. She added that, in order to reduce poverty, broaden education and improve public, there is need to access clean energy, saying that with the deployment of clean energy, the goal of energy access can be met.

NAPTIN, she said, successfully installed a 60kw Solar PV Systems at its corporate headquarters in Abuja, which is being used as alternative energy source of supply and has reduced electricity consumption by 50%. The system also serves as a practical demonstration facility for training on Solar PV installation courses.

She described Clean Energy as energy that comes from renewable, zero-emission sources that do not pollute the atmosphere when used. Examples are solar energy, wind energy, bioenergy, geothermal energy, hydropower, nuclear energy, and natural gas.

Referring to the SE4All Action Agenda, she disclosed that Nigeria's power system is characterised by a massive gap between supply and demand. To bridge this gap, Nigeria plans to generate 30,000MW by 2030 and 3000MW will be from renewable energy sources to serve over 200 million people.

She described the project as an opportunity to sensitize the locals on the effect of dirty energy used, and to construct power plants closer to where they are actually needed.

In this way, much needed income, skills transfer and manufacturing opportunities for small businesses would be injected into rural communities, she said.

While listing NAPTIN's mandate, she said the organisation currently has eight (8) Regional Training Centers (RTCs) spread over the six (6) geo-political zones of the country, adding that the Gembu RTC is the new addition yet to be completed.

Tea Break

Chinonso Agbo (Chief Operating Officer, Schrodinger Greentech Limited) **–** *The landscape of energy mix and renewable energy initiatives in Nigeria*

Agbo stated that Nigeria is the largest economy in sub-Saharan Africa, but limitations in the power sector constrain her growth.

Nigeria is endowed with large oil, gas, hydro and solar resources, and it has the potential to generate 12,522 MW of electric power from existing plants. On most days, however, it is only able to dispatch around 4,000 MW, which is insufficient for a country of over 206 million people.

He added that, in 2019, primary energy consumption for Nigeria was 1.7 quadrillion btu. Though Nigeria primary energy consumption fluctuated substantially in recent years, it tended to increase through 2000 - 2019 period ending at 1.7 quadrillion btu in 2019.

Shedding some light on emissions across sectors, he stated that the largest driver of overall GHG emissions are CO2 emissions from fuel combustion.

Carbon intensity shows how much CO2 is emitted per unit of energy supply. In Nigeria, carbon intensity has fluctuated between 10 to 15 tCO2 over the last three decades, he stated, pointing out that this low level reflects the continuously high share of traditional biomass in the energy mix.

Speaking on Nigeria's energy mix, he disclosed that Nigeria's electricity generation from renewables has remained mostly constant, with minor ups and downs, over the last three decades, accounting for 20% of the power mix in 2019.

Renewable generation, he added, is almost entirely from hydropower, with minor generation from solar coming online in 2012. He noted that the level of natural gas power has more than doubled in the last 20 years, currently accounting for 80% of the power mix.

He emphasised that solar, wind, geothermal and biomass account for 10% of Nigeria's energy supply, stating that non-traditional biomass dominates, with negligible additions of solar since 2012, and no wind or geothermal. But, according to him, the share of renewables in total energy supply has decreased by around 4% in the last five years (2014-2019).

Dr Godwin Uyi Ojo (National Coordinator of ACSEA and Executive Director, ERA/FoEN) – *Decentralised energy systems delivery: Enhancing rural electrification in Nigeria*

He described energy democracy as the decentralization of energy sources in ways that distribute economic and social power more widely, saying that it is simply "to get renewable energy in more people's hands" rather than concentrating it in the hands of shareholders and business executives.

He added that when more people are involved, they could also benefit from jobs generation, investment in renewables, and then receive tangible benefits.

Lack of access to adequate energy supply affects as much as 90% of the population in many developing countries, he noted, adding that, globally, about 1.6 billion lacks access to electricity while 1.2 billion depend on biomass fuel such as wood, charcoal, animal dung and crop residue.

He stressed that, in Nigeria, fuelwood dependence is 53% in urban areas and about 90% in rural areas.

An Energy Transition Framework, he said, should be less capital intensive (entrepreneurial schemes (investments/profits) VERSUS social marketing that accounts for the poor through subsidies, grants, loans, cost recovering etc.

Apart from compatibility with the limits of the planet and the earth's resilience, he stated that the World Bank, IFIs and governments should divest from funding extractives and should invest loans and subsidies in renewable sources of energy.

Similarly, he submitted that governments should remove tariffs on solar and other renewable energy gadgets.

He recommended the establishment of Community Energy Committees to take charge of community energy planning and practical demonstrations.

He also underlined the need for a Renewable Energy Policy to (1) design the framework to support renewable energy decentralisation that would allow groups and individual participation, and (2) set targets, initiate plans and programmes that are community-based.

Lunch

SESSION 3: *Group work and plenary*

The Group Work session entailed the division of participants into 2 groups.

Under the Advocacy and Just Transition scenario, the aim is for group members to identify key issues and map stakeholders, key actors, roles and responsibilities.

At the end of group discussions, **Group 1**, for instance, urged ACSEA to push for the State Houses of Assembly to accept the ongoing constitutional amendment to move power generation from Exclusive List to Residual List instead of Concurrent List to be able to activate the following power governance structures that put energy production into the hands of the people:

1. Community Energy Cooperatives (CECs)
2. Public-Private-Community Private (PPCP)
3. Citizens-Communities participating in Power Privatization

They listed the actors and stakeholders to include:

1. Community Leadership Associations
2. Community Based Organizations CBOs/FBOs
3. ALGON/LGA
4. State Houses of Assembly

5. Existing DISCOs/GENCOs
6. NERC
7. NASS
8. Development Partners
9. Financial Institutions
10. MDAs like NAPTIN/REA

SESSION 4: *Discussions / Way forward / Closing*

Dr Gloria Chinwe (NEST)

Are we making reference renewable energy or non-renewable energy?

Etiosa Uyigue

Where will you evacuate the power? Through which grid? With the current structure of centralisation, it is challenging. You have to go through the grid, through the GENCOs and DISCOs. It is difficult to bypass the structure on ground.

The structure favours big projects. My recommendation is that this current structure of centralisation should be decentralised. We cannot achieve NDC through renewable energy, as its too expensive. Let's advocate for energy efficiency.

Chinenye Anekwe (Facilitator) (To NAPTIN)

When will you train people on assembling products locally? Is your training one on quality assurance? Do the power banks produced have quality?

David Michael (GIFSEP) (To NAPTIN)

What is the cost of your training? What is the process of getting people to the Centre?

A Participant (To NAPTIN)

Can you move your trainings to the rural areas? Some terrains are very difficult to access. We need skills to promote renewable energy. We all need this energy to be able to enhance development. NAPTIN should have offices in LGAs.

Festus Eguaoje (Director, National Power Training Institute of Nigeria – NAPTIN)

Nigeria's energy system is totally decentralised.

How expensive? Our services are moderate and affordable to Nigerians. We give rebate to clients such as ERA. We can't go below set standards.

Access: You can enrol through our portal.

We have 8 regional training centres in Nigeria: in Surulere, Lagos; Afam Rivers State (South South); Oji, Enugu State (South East); Kainji, Niger State; Jos; Kaduna and Kano. We are proposing one in Gembu, Taraba State.

Resources are limited to go around all LGs. Simulation Centres are expensive to set up.

NAPTIN partners with NASENI. Our aim is to train 250,000 students for 4 weeks. The training centres have hostels.

Stanley Igwebuike Ijeaoma (Nigeria Country Representative, World Council for Renewable Energy – WCRE)

On energy efficiency, we are talking about energy that is clean and sustainable.

Dr Godwin Uyi Ojo (National Coordinator of ACSEA and Executive Director, ERA/FoEN)

Stanley has made a case for business.

Etiosa Uyigue

There is need for subsidy.

Dr Raphael Offiong (Director, UNICAL Carbon Innovation Centre, UNICAL, Calabar)

Energy is a right. Even though you can't get it for free, it should be subsidised so that the common man can have access. Government should invest more in renewable energy to be made accessible to the poor. There is need for accessible renewable energy, even to the poor.

Dr Godwin Uyi Ojo (National Coordinator of ACSEA and Executive Director, ERA/FoEN)

ACSEA is a new baby, just born yesterday. It has zero staff. It has a Steering Committee, and members of the committee include Stanley Igwebuike Ijeaoma, Dr Godwin Uyi Ojo, Chinenye Anekwe and Pius Oko.

ACSEA plans to commission a newsletter to be produced periodically.

PARTICIPANTS