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ADVANCING RENEWABLE ENERGY IN SENEGAL

Findings from the ProGREEN Project

About ProGREEN

ProGREEN seeks to advance understanding of and potential for small-scale renewable energy to contribute to broader energy transitions in West Africa.

Activities emphasize experiential learning that brings together early- and mid-career researchers with renewable energy experts from national governments, private sector actors from green finance, and civil society. This approach enables connectivity between research, policy and practice that ensures strong research for impact.

This note highlights findings from a knowledge assessment conducted by multi-sector and multidisciplinary experts in Senegal to understand key enabling and constraining factors for the uptake of community-scale (micro-grid and off-grid) solar and bioenergy.



Enabling Factors

- Active involvement and ownership for beneficiaries
- Appropriate design and implementation of installations
- Education on basic maintenance
- Availability of energy sources
- Decreasing cost of components
- Formalization of regulations
- Boosting income generating activities

Constraining Factors

- Insufficient coordination
- Inadequate training and quality control
- Poor integration of scientific and technical research into program designs
- Incorrect Sizing
- Difficulties in maintaining installations
- No after-sales service
- Lack of consultation with beneficiaries
- Weak subsidies
- Insufficient involvement of private sector

Solar Energy Recommendations

- Strengthen regulatory frameworks;
- Improve incentive measures;
- Promote networking and information sharing;
- Set up a Renewable Energy Information System to advise and orient all solar technologies and serve as a framework for permanent monitoring;
- Set up incubators for solar technologies;
- Develop capacities of actors along the entire value chain;
- Strengthen technical and financial support to research & development (R&D) and innovation;
- Promote multi-stakeholder technical and financial partnerships.

Bioenergy Recommendations

- Promote organic fertilizer value chains;
- Encourage collaboration between actors;
- Offer holistic training and capacity development;
- Promote research and development (R&D) on bio-digesters;
- Promote integrative energy projects.
- Increase awareness of actors and beneficiaries;
- Set up diversified trainings including for youth;
- Facilitate funding to increase production and develop the biofuel market.
- Organize technical capacity development and set up financing schemes for production, marketing and management of improved cookstoves;
- Develop energy efficiency projects featuring cook stoves in the context of climate change in order to benefit from green financing opportunities;

Promoting Gains in Renewable Energy (ProGREEN) is a multi-year project led by START and supported by the Research Fund of Québec. More details on the assessment and the country report can be found here : [french](#) / [english](#).

"Since the installation of the mini-power station, the hospital's bills have decreased by 1/3 to half of the usual amount."

BABACAR MANE,
DIRECTEUR GÉNÉRAL
HOPITAL REGIONAL DE
THIES.

