



WASCAL MONTHLY BULLETIN

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Combating Climate Change. Improving Livelihoods

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WASCAL HOSTS BMBF'S DR. KARSTEN HESS



WASCAL hosted newly appointed overseer of WASCAL and SASSCAL from BMBF Dr. Karsten Hess at its headquarters in Accra. Dr. Moumini Savadogo,

the Executive Director of WASCAL, in his statement congratulated Dr. Hess on his new role and pledged WASCAL's commitment to ensuring a successful tenure. Dr. Hess expressed appreciation to his predecessors as well as WASCAL's dedication toward the unique approach to fighting Climate Change and promoting renewable energy in West Africa. He commended WASCAL for the successes, and reminded them that the organization had grown to become a reference point of international cooperation between Germany and West Africa. He pledged his support to more exciting times together to combat Climate Change and improve livelihoods in West Africa.

WEST AFRICAN MINISTERS MEET ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND GREEN HYDROGEN FOR THE SUB-REGION



WASCAL Ministerial Council has held its 4th biennial meeting that seeks to bring all ministers responsible for environmental, Climate Change renewable energy and higher education within the WASCAL member states in West Africa.

This year's theme, "Enhancing West Africa's

scientific capacity towards accelerated climate action for sustainable development" seeks to create the platform for the ministers to discuss pertinent issues on WASCAL's sustainability of impacts within West Africa in the Climate Change and Renewable Energy spaces.

Among the key highlights of the event was the official groundbreaking ceremony for the commencement of the Climate Change Competence Centre, that will serve as a hub for Africa's scientific community. The seven million euros (€ 7,000,000) Centre of Excellence Climate Change and Renewable Energy services in Africa is funded by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF).

Other events that took place were the graduation of WASACL first batch graduands of master's Programme in Informatics for Climate Change as well as the official launching of the programme based in Burkina Faso.

WASCAL' S HEAD OF MINISTERIAL COUNCIL VISITS HEADQUARTERS

AHEAD of the 4th WASCAL Ministerial Council Meeting held in Ouagadougou on 22nd July, 2021, the chairman of the Ministerial Council Board of WASCAL, Dr. Mamoudou Djibo from Niger visited Ghana.



He, together with the WASCAL Board Chair, Prof. Hassirou Mouhamadou and the Executive Management Team, paid a courtesy call on the Ghana Minister of Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation, Dr. Kwaku Afriyie to deepen relations and discuss the sustainability of WASCAL. He also interacted with the headquarters staff. The WASCAL Ministerial Council Meeting is a bi-annual meeting of Ministers in all WASCAL member countries, responsible for higher education and/or Climate Change, and the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research, BMBF. This year's meeting also saw the official groundbreaking ceremony of the WASCAL Competence Centre Edifice in Ouagadougou.

BMBF IS FUNDING NEW BUILDING OF THE COMPETENCE CENTRE FOR CLIMATE CHANGE IN BURKINA FASO.



WASCAL Ministerial Conference held on July 22nd in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, with the foundation stone laid for a new building of the WASCAL Competence Centre with funding from the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF). The modern new building will house the WASCAL researchers and other

scientists, to which a graduate school for scientific data management will also be connected.

So far BMBF has invested €120 million in WASCAL for climate change and renewable energy in west Africa supported the training of almost 400 young academics at the twelve WASCAL graduate schools. The fifth year of study begins in autumn with 240 students. In addition, as a new focus at four WASCAL locations, the BMBF has launched a master's degree programme in 'Green Hydrogen' from 2021 to train specialists on site in this important climate protection technology and thus help shape their own future.

On the sidelines of the ceremony of laying the foundation stone for the construction of the Centre, a tree was planted in the courtyard by Professor Alkassoum Maiga Minister of Higher Education, Scientific Research and Innovation of Burkina Faso and other representatives of the member countries of WASCAL.

PREPARING FOR A TAKE-OFF OF INTERNATIONAL GREEN HYDROGEN PROGRAMME IN CÔTE D'IVOIRE



HEAD of the 722 Division on Renewable Energies and the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) Hydrogen Technology, Dr. Christoph Rövekamp, has paid a visit to the WASCAL Graduate Research Programme in Climate Change and Biodiversity at the University Felix Houphouët-Boigny (UFHB) in Côte d'Ivoire.

During his visit, he paid a courtesy call to the Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research, his excellency Prof. Adama Diawara and the president of the University Felix Houphouët-Boigny (UFHB). Prof. Ballo Zié.

Delivering his speech, Prof. Rövekamp said his visit was an opportunity to reinforce networks with partners to enhance preparative measures for the new Hydrogen Programme to kick start in four WASCAL member countries (Côte d'Ivoire, Togo, Niger, and Senegal).

He also took a tour of the newly built lecture rooms and laboratories, the UFHB laboratory of solar energies, the system of electrical bus of UFHB, the Scientific and Innovation Pole units including the National Centre of Computation, the students' residential building, and the industrial research unit expected to host the first batch of International Energy and Green Hydrogen students.

1ST BATCH OF HYDROGEN STUDENTS



1ST BATCH of WASCAL Master's scholars in Green Hydrogen and Energy from all Ecowas - Cedeao countries with funding from BMBF visited WASCAL HQ in Accra ahead of the commencement of their programme. All the best to them Executive Director of WASCAL, Dr. Moumini Savadogo admonished students to maximize the opportunities at their disposal in order to contribute to #GreenHydrogen and #renewableenergy in West Africa.

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BMBF AND WASCAL PAY EVALUATION VISIT TO NIGER ON GREEN HYDROGEN PROGRAMME



DR. CHRISTOPH RÖVEKAMP, Head of the 722 Division, Energy and Hydrogen Technologies at the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), and Associate Professor at the University Abdou Moumouni has paid a courtesy call to Minister of Higher Education, Research and Innovation, Professor Mamoudou Djibo, as part of kick – off preparations towards the commencement of the newly introduced International Masters Programme in Energy and Green Hydrogen Technology. Four Universities, in Four West African countries, including that of Niger will run the two-year innovative international programme under WASCAL'S Graduate Studies Programme with funding and technical support from BMBF.

Dr. Rövekamp also paid visit to the University and other key partners to deepen partnership and interact on issues regarding the programme and Renewable Energy in general. The Governing Chair of WASCAL

Prof. Hassirou Mahamadou, Chairman of the Scientific Advisory Committee, Prof. Dr. Arona Diedhiou, Executive Director of WASCAL, Dr. Moumini Savadogo, Capacity Building Director Prof. Daouda Kone, Vice Chancellor in charge of Research and Foreign affairs of Abdou Moumouni University (UAM) Prof. Adamou Rabani, and WASCAL Renewable Energy Coordinator, Dr. Bruno Korgo, were part of the delegation that toured the facilities.

The 24-month programme, to be run in partnership with Forschungszentrum Jülich GmbH and RWTH Aachen University, Germany, with funding from the Federal Ministry of Education and Research, Germany (BMBF) seeks to prepare and train a new generation of interdisciplinary professionals capable of proposing adapted solutions to the ongoing energy crisis in West Africa.

ENGAGING WASTE TO ENERGY GRASSROOT BENEFICIARIES



BMBF funded Renewable Energy Project on Waste to Energy in Ghana, engaged beneficiaries of the project led by Project Officer Alberta Aryee. Her community engagement with various grassroots stakeholders had the turn of students from Gyakobaa Senior High School where there was an interactive session on the essence of the project and how beneficial it is to them.

WASCAL AND PARTNERS MAKE STRIDES IN CLIMATE INFORMATION FOR INTEGRATED RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY GENERATION



THE CIREG project brought together researchers from West African and institutes to work closely together with stakeholders and decision-makers from West Africa to co-generate demand-driven climate services in the frame of renewable energy planning. It provided practical training sessions for West African stakeholders, including academic and non-academics, public and private institutions, research and development agencies

of water and energy sectors of Burkina, Ghana, Niger and Togo.

It again executed Science-Policy dialogues on renewable electricity solutions that account for national and regional development policies under different climate scenarios in West Africa and as well as engaging in participatory scenarios on building on energy management and planning in line with the SDGs in West Africa.

The tools developed will allow policymakers and experts to understand the consequences and trade-offs of four electricity generation development scenarios, namely the examination of the performance of existing and planned national capacity for renewable electricity generation; the National Renewable Energy Action Plan, the climate smart scenario which examined the integrated potential of hydropower, solar power and wind power; and how fulfilment of selected Sustainable Development Goal targets would affect the electricity and water sectors.

WASCAL GRADUATES 1ST BATCH OF INFORMATICS FOR CLIMATE CHANGE STUDENTS



FIRST batch of master's students at the Joseph Ki Zerbo University in Burkina Faso graduated in Informatics for Climate Change. They were presented with their certificates by high profile dignitaries at the grounds of the future Competence Centre, Ouagadougou.

The Master Research Programme in Informatics for Climate Change (MRP-INFORMCC) is aimed at training a critical mass of experts with adequate scientific computation and Climate data management skills in West Africa.

ECOWAS & WASCAL HOLD VALIDATION WORKSHOP ON IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON AGRIC, WATER IN WEST AFRICA



A **TWO-DAY** workshop to present results of the research project and to identify the impacts of climate change and adaptation cost on agriculture, water sector and coastal zones in West Africa by ECOWAS in partnership with WASCAL was held at WASCAL's Competence Centre in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso.

Jointly presided over by Dr. Moumini Savadogo, Executive Director of WASCAL and Mr. Leko Moussa, the Acting Director of Environment and Natural Resources, representing ECOWAS, the workshop was designed to garner outputs of the study and collate stakeholders' comments and recommendations for future perspectives in connection with impacts, vulnerability, and adaptation assessments in West Africa.

The workshop was attended by representatives of Ministries in charge of Environment and Climate Change, Agriculture, Water Resources, Meteorological Agencies in the sub-region, international organizations, and NGOs, with key discussions cutting across bias correction, data collection, uncertainty, artificial groundwater recharge in West Africa.

RENEWABLE ENERGY COORDINATOR INTERACTS WITH BURKINA FASO MINISTER



WASCAL'S #renewableenergy Regional Coordinator Dr. Bruno Korgo calls on Burkina Faso Energy Minister, Dr. Ismaël Bashir Oedraogo to deliberate on Biomass project in the country. It was also to formally discuss WASCAL's commitment to Renewable Energies in general, and how it could work together with the Government of Burkina Faso to maximize the opportunities available

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Editor: Nii Commey.

Assistant Editor: Peace Ahovi

Layout & Design: Communication Division, WASCAL

T: +233 302 777 137

 www.wascal.org

 press@wascal.org / info@wascal.org

    @wascalclimate

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