

Ghana policies on solar energy

President Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo, who spoke at the 29th United Nations Climate Conference (COP 29), urged world leaders to move beyond rhetoric and take concrete, decisive actions to address the global climate crisis.

In an interview with Citi Business News, Benjamin Nsiah, Executive Director of CEMSE, outlined several key policy areas that need to be realigned. One such area includes reducing taxes on liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) to make cleaner energy options more accessible.

“As a country, most of our policies are inconsistent with their practice. For example, if you talk of clean cooking energy or clean cooking fuel, which is one of the goals of the Sustainable Development Target, which is goal seven, talk of clean and affordable energy.

But LPG, which is a clean energy source for household usage, is not affordable. We still have taxes on them. So, as a country, we need to critically look at that to make sure that our policies align with our nationally determined contributions. The second part is that we still see unsustainable mining across Ghana, which is also known as Galamsey.”

The two countries said UK and Indian companies were open to partner with Ghanaian innovators in the energy sector to rollout products and services to promote sustainable and efficient energy solutions.

Mr Shri Manish Gupta, the Indian High Commissioner to Ghana, and Mrs Harriet Thompson, the UK High Commissioner to Ghana, made the commitment at the opening of the 3rd Power and Energy Ghana Expo and Exhibition in Accra on Wednesday.

The three-day event will assemble 100 exhibitors and about 1000 professionals worldwide to display their innovations in the energy sector and discuss measures to scale-up renewable energy and address demand and supply issues in the sector.

He said India had enormous expertise in energy solutions and was willing to share ideas with Ghana and build partnerships towards achieving reliable, efficient, and affordable energy.

Mrs Thompson said the UK was committed to achieving zero carbon emissions by 2050, adding that the country had built expertise in renewable energy solutions particularly in battery storage solutions.

She said Ghana had an important role to play in global energy transition following the discovery of lithium - an important raw material for the production of electric car batteries and other products.



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She said about 85 per cent of the citizenry had access to electricity, adding that the Ministry was exploring solar energy solutions to increase electricity access in remote communities.

Dr Joseph Obeng, President, Ghana Union of Traders Association, appealed to stakeholders in the sector to patronise the exhibition and called for deepened sensitisation of the public on energy efficiency.

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