



AYITEPA WIND FARM PROJECT NEWSLETTER

GREAT NINGO

Issue 5 - June 2016



Second Community Engagement Event - 7th April 2016 in Old Ningo

On 7th April 2016, the second big Community Engagement Event took place in the Presbyterian Church of Old Ningo. More than 300 people were present at this meeting in order to get additional information on the progress of the 225 MW wind park project.

The participants included representatives of the Ningo-Prampram District Assembly, the Ningo Traditional Council, Queenmothers, Community Leaders and Elders, Landholders, Farmers and Fishermen, Women Groups, the District's Health Management Team, the Drivers Union, the Great Ningo Youth Association as well as representatives of the Fire Service, Police and the Public and Vested Land Management Division.

The Chairman of the event was Mr. Matthew Tay, Ningo-Prampram's District Co-ordinating Director, who represented the District Chief Executive. He expressed, among others, that this wind energy project enjoys full support of the local authorities, since it will contribute to reducing the challenges the country is currently facing. Also the Acting President of the Ningo Traditional Council, Nene Kanor Atiapah III, expressed the joy of the chiefs and people of the Ningo Traditional Area to be beneficiaries of such a significant project.

Following the welcome address, the presentation of the project developers started. The Community Liaison Officer as well as the Project and Development Managers from both, NEK/Upwind and Lekela, explained the various aspects of wind energy and provided an update on the development status.

An open forum provided the platform for interactions between the project developers and the participants. Questions on community benefits as well as recruitment and maximising local employment were addressed. For more photos about the event, see next page.

Introduction

Dear Reader,

The wind park project is advancing and although there is still some way to go before construction begins, we have made progress in some areas including in community engagement (see left) as well as signing of land lease contracts moving the project further forward.

On the second page of our newsletter, you will find an interview with Jennifer Boca from Lekela about the planned community projects.

Enjoy reading!

Kind regards,

Francis Tsatsu Owulah
Community Liaison Officer
(CLO)



P.S. Please, for further news check our website www.upwindayitepa.com.

Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) with ECG signed!

On 09th May 2016, the final Power Purchase Agreement for the 225 MW wind farm at Ayitepa was signed at the Headquarters of the Electricity Company of Ghana Ltd. (ECG) in Accra. Signing took place after a long period of negotiations between the Ghanaian Authorities and NEK.

The agreement is two-phased and secures to the project company Upwind Ayitepa Ltd. the delivery of 150 MW of clean wind power in a first phase with the clear intention to increase the project to 225 MW in a second phase. It is the first PPA signed in Ghana for a wind park and therefore has a pioneering character.

Jennifer Boca of Lekela talks about Community Investment

Diverse benefits such as job creation, land lease income, improved infrastructure and others will be created through the Ayitepa Wind Farm. However, the developers and investors of the wind farm are committed to sponsoring additional Community Benefit Projects so as to ensure that the wider community benefits from the project. Below, Lekela Head of Environmental, Social and Governance, Jennifer Boca, answers questions on community investment plans.

Ms Boca, during your recent visit to Ghana you talked to community members as well as to authorities regarding community development benefits. Can you tell us more about this?

The people around the wind farm are our local hosts and we believe in bettering the communities in the areas where we invest. Our vision is to leave a positive and lasting legacy in the Ningo area, long after the project is completed and we aim to do this by identifying together with the community initiatives that benefit the wider Ningo area.

Are there certain principles after which Lekela is working when it comes to Community Benefit Projects?

Our focus is mostly on projects that address the long term development objectives of the Ningo area and that are aligned with our Community investment focus areas in Education and Skills, Employment and Enterprise and Environment and Energy so as to create shared value for the project and community. Most of the community projects will be developed during the project's operational phase. However, the Project has also committed to bringing forward a School refurbishment project to be implemented before construction of the wind farm starts.

Who will finally select the projects for the Ayitepa Wind Farm and decide which communities will benefit?

The project is in the process of developing a Community Investment Plan (CIP) that will be guided by consultation with the local community and key stakeholders including the Ningo Traditional Council (NTC) and the District Assembly. The CIP will set out the project selection criteria based on local needs. An independent project selection panel that has membership from the local community, District Assembly, NTC and the project sponsor will select which projects to prioritise.



Jennifer Boca (third from right) after a meeting with the Ningo-Prampram District Assembly and education officers.

Upcoming Event

To celebrate the Global Wind Day 2016, a drawing contest for Junior High Schools has been announced. The students of the two best drawings of each school will be invited to a prize-giving event on the 22nd of June in Dawa.

Some impressions of the Community Event in April



Signing Procedures for Land Lease Contracts

20th May - 10th June

Chiefs, Asafoatses, Stool Fathers, Elders and other representatives of the land owners were present at different occasions during the past weeks for the signing procedures of the long-term land lease agreements regarding the construction and operation of the 225 MW wind farm project at Ayitepa in the Greater Accra Region.

During various sessions and discussion rounds, around 150 people attended the meetings, during which final land lease agreements and related documents were signed between Upwind Ayitepa Ltd. and the respective land owners of the Ayitepa site. The meetings were supported in an outstanding manner by official representatives of the Ningo Traditional Council (NTC). The NTC members mediated between the involved parties and helped explaining pending questions regarding the future rights of the owners with reference to their land. They also pointed to the advantages of the project for the population and the land owners and encouraged the people to a fruitful collaboration between them and the project companies.

New Technical Assistant for the CLO

NEK (Ghana) Ltd. is happy to announce a new staff member: **Samuel Manortey** started working in our office in Ayitepa in April and will assist the CLO with his works. Welcome to the team!

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