

NEK'S CEO MEETS THE PRESIDENT OF GHANA AT THE WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM

At the annual meeting of the World Economic Forum (WEF) in Davos, Switzerland, business leaders, international political leaders, economists and other opinion leaders come together in order to discuss issues of global concerns such as globalization, climate change, wealth management and also environmental problems and their possible solution

This year's forum was honoured with the presence of the President of the Republic of Ghana - HE Nana Akufo-Addo. On 22nd of January 2020, the Government of Ghana organized at the WEF a high-level private dinner for Ghana's political leaders and business executives. To this dinner, also the CEO of NEK Umwelttechnik AG - Dr. Christoph Kapp - was invited.

He took this opportunity to discuss with the President NEK's wind power pipeline in Ghana (including the Great Ningo Wind Farm) and how these projects benefit the country and help to tackle climate change.

The conversation with the Ghanaian delegation was held in a very good and interested manner, and the President once again

stated the interest of the Government of Ghana that these wind power projects are in line with the policy of Ghana to reduce the CO₂ footprint of the country.



President Nana Akufo-Addo speaking at the WEF

THE COMMUNITY LIAISON TEAM OF THE GREAT NINGO WIND FARM



Jeff Amoah
j.amoah@nek.ch
+233 245 242 033

Samuel Manortey
s.manortey@nek.ch
+233 242 339 106

Emmanuel Adjei Kordie
e.adjei-kordie@nek.ch
+233 261 313 600

UPWIND AYITEPA LTD.

14 Koi Street
Kukun - Osu
P.O. Box CT 8181
Accra, Ghana

+233 55 047 7977
info@upwindayitepa.com
www.upwindayitepa.com

225 MW GREAT NINGO WIND FARM PROJECT NEWSLETTER



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CHALLENGE ACCEPTED



Prampram to control the spread of the Covid-19 virus within the local Ningo-Prampram Community.

We're also excited to announce the presence of our new Accra Head Office located in the municipality of Osu to further facilitate the development of the Ayitepa Wind Farm and establish a presence in Ghana's bustling business capital. This further demonstrates our commitment to facilitate private and public stakeholder engagement across the various institutions, relevant industries, local and international stakeholders located within Accra in addition to the Ningo-Prampram Community.

It has been a while since the last Ayitepa Project Newsletter was issued and a lot of things have happened since then. The bustling activities in the world momentarily stalled due to the spread of the Corona virus. Despite the global health crisis, we look forward and are optimistic that we will adjust to this "new normal" and emerge past the Corona crisis stronger and resilient enough to overcome its challenges.

An informative interview with the CEO of Lekela Power, Chris Antonopoulos, highlights Lekela's vision and commitment to the development of our local stakeholders and members within the Ningo-Prampram community especially during this pandemic. To demonstrate our hands-on-approach to supporting community development initiatives during this pandemic, we donated face masks and sanitizers to the local population of Ningo-

As mentioned earlier, our efforts involve all the key stakeholders associated with the development of the windpark. Our stakeholder engagement efforts are not only tailored to informing and convincing the local population of the importance of renewable energy and its associated benefits but also his Excellency, President Nana Akufo-Addo. Thanks to our ability to set and maintain a strong network and relationships within Ghana, we are covering the full range of stakeholders involved in the development of the 225MW Ayitepa Wind Farm. This newsletter remains a key aspect in maintaining up-to-date communication on the benefits of the Ayitepa Wind Farm.

INTERVIEW WITH CHRIS ANTONOPOULOS, CEO OF LEKELA POWER

Chris Antonopoulos, CEO of Lekela Power, believes investors should play a more hands-on role in local communities around renewable energy projects.

Speaking to Windpower Monthly ahead of the Africa Energy Forum in Mauritius, Mr. Antonopoulos also said there were a number of barriers that affect renewable deployment in Africa despite its tremendous resources. Lekela has a portfolio of wind and solar projects, across the continent, from South Africa to Egypt, via Ghana and Senegal.

He believes investors and developers play a key role in helping local communities in Africa.

"As a long-term investment, it is not sufficient just to invest. Investors must also develop local skills, and projects must absolutely benefit the local communities," Antonopoulos said.

"We try to optimise and maximise local content, and make sure that the local labour get educated in the process. At the end of construction of our projects we try and give the local workers certificates so they can move on.

"We also keep some of our revenues aside to invest in the very local communities, for things like schools or sanitation."

"Investors should not only be there to invest to provide power, they should be more involved. We want to leave a legacy behind."

"Also, when we are leasing the project site, ultimately, you only need 3-5% of the project site to operate the turbines, so the remaining 95-97% can be returned to the local farmers."

"We build roads and drainage, so farmers are better off with the wind farm than without it. It is important to communicate what the benefits are to the local community," Antonopoulos added.

Mr. Antonopoulos believes there are good reasons to invest in Africa – "second to none resources" and "typically higher" tariffs – but said the lack of a regulatory framework in many countries is holding some nations back from feeling the benefits of renewable energy.

Lekela's chief said the countries without regulatory frameworks, to encourage independent power producers in to the country to develop projects, should "proudly" copy the success of countries that do have wind capacity.

"There needs to be a clear regulatory framework in some countries. Why don't governments copy, with pride, other country's successful regulations, instead of building from scratch, which can take years or even a decade," he said.

"Governments need dedicated entities to bring in IPPs rather than rely on state utilities [to build generation]."

Antonopoulos said Lekela is looking to invest in more countries but said, as well as a strong regulatory process, he looks for a stable investment environment and for growth within a country, as this means demand will grow too.

"When you see a clear process that is being followed through, that deadlines are met, that opens the door to investors," Antonopoulos said.



Chris Antonopoulos, CEO Lekela Power

Extracts from the WIND POWER MONTHLY interview by David Weston

SUPPORT AGAINST THE SPREAD OF COVID-19 IN THE NINGO-PRAMPAM DISTRICT

The developers of the Great Ningo Wind Farm recently donated goods for the people of Ningo-Prampam to protect themselves against the coronavirus. The items, which include face masks and sanitizers, were presented by the Community Liaison Team to the DCE of Ningo-Prampam, Jonathan Teye Doku, on June 12, 2020.

In line with advice from health experts, Ghanaian authorities have made the wearing of face masks mandatory. However, the cost of masks can be a barrier for some people, so we have stepped in to donate and distribute these reusable, FDA-approved masks to the host communities.

"As corporate citizens of Ningo-Prampam, it is our duty to help fight COVID-19 together," Jennifer Boca, Head of Environmental, Social and Governance at Lekela, said from London. "While our personal movements are restricted by the coronavirus, Lekela stays committed to the Upwind project and the Ningo community."

In receiving the gifts, the H.E. Jonathan Teye Doku, said "The COVID-19 situation is challenging, so we highly appreciate the help of Upwind. It is reassuring to know that these

companies are invested in the health and education of our communities. We look forward to partnering with them to distribute the items equitably."

Normally, NEK's Community Liaison Officers would be going to households to educate people about the benefits of clean, renewable wind energy for the community. This time, they will be going around to distribute nose masks and sanitizers and educate households about the coronavirus.

Dr. Christoph Kapp, the CEO of NEK, said, "As the President of Ghana reminds us, these are not ordinary times. We at NEK must get creative to use what we have to get us all to overcome this pandemic."



NEW OFFICE IN THE MUNICIPALITY OSU OF ACCRA

We are pleased to inform you that we moved our office in Accra to the district Osu. The office is located at the Kukun office space in the Koi Street near Ako Adjei Park.

We have a workspace with enough workspaces available, furthermore a meeting and training room supports our activities in the capital of Ghana. It allows us to meet our stakeholders in Accra but also hold internal presentations. The infrastructure covers all

our needs, furthermore a café on the ground floor complements the new office.

Everyone is invited to get in contact and meet us at the new office location.



Kukun building in Accra where our new office is located.