

East African Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (EACREEE) Launched at Makerere University, Kampala



Minister Irene Muloni (middle) and other delegates during the launch of EACREEE on June 11, 2016 at CEDAT Makerere

KAMPALA, 11 June 2016 – In line with the 33rd Meeting of the Council of Ministers of the East African Community (EAC), a Centre of Excellence for the East African Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (EACREEE) was inaugurated today in Kampala by the Hon. Minister designate, Irene Muloni, Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development of Uganda.

Ms. Irene Muloni reaffirmed the continued support of the Government of Uganda to the EACREEE and strongly appealed

to the Partner States and development partners “to accord the EACREEE serious attention and support so that it is able to achieve its mission and objectives in addition to growing into a vibrant and self-sustaining organization”.

Representing the Director General of United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), Mr. Philippe Scholtès, Managing Director, Programme Development and Technical Cooperation Division of UNIDO, emphasized the importance of inclusive and sustainable

industrial development (ISID), as well as the role of sustainable energy and private-public partnerships achieving ISID. The Global Network of Regional Sustainable Energy Centres provides a mechanism to facilitate this cooperation on sustainable energy, assisting development partners to effectively and efficiently deliver their development assistance in a coherent manner.

Günter Engelits, Head of Office – Austrian Development Cooperation in Uganda, noted the importance of the centre in leaving important footprints on technical, financial, institutional levels, and most importantly, on a human resource level, as well as reducing the political, regulatory, institutional, technical, and social barriers in the region for the achievement of access to energy for all: “We are convinced that the work of the EACREEE will contribute to successes of EAC and its partners in the areas of renewable energy and energy efficiency”.

To document the commitment of the parties to the realization of the EACREEE, and facilitate its continued operation, a project implementation agreement between EAC, Makerere University’s College of Engineering, Design, Art and Technology (CEDAT) and UNIDO was also signed in Kampala.

The centre is expected to act as a regional think-tank and focal point for sustainable energy activities and issues, as well as strengthening ongoing national activities on policy and capacity development, knowledge management and awareness raising, and investment and business promotion in the areas of renewable energy and energy efficiency, whilst also encouraging and promoting greater cooperation within EAC for improved coordination and synergies.

The EACREEE is supported by UNIDO and the Austrian Government, in the form of the seed funding from the Austrian Development Agency (ADA), and is part of the Global Network of Regional Sustainable Energy Centres. The Network currently includes the EACREEE, the ECOWAS Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (ECREEE) based in Cape Verde and the Caribbean Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (CCREEE) in Barbados, with the Pacific Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (PCREEE) and the SADC Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (SACREEE) both expected to be launched by end of 2016.

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