

GAMBIA

NAMA Design Document for Rural Electrification with Renewable Energy in the Gambia



What's the issue and how are we responding?

With a national electrification rate of an estimated 40 percent and with certain rural areas having an electrification rate as low as 6 percent, the time is ripe in The Gambia for the Rural Electrification with Renewable Energy (RE) Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Action (NAMA). A number of building blocks have already been put in place in the country. The 2013 Renewable Energy Act provides the framework for both on and off-grid renewable energy tariffs and net metering, as well as establishing a national RE Fund. There has been development of pilot renewable energy projects as well as diesel powered multi-function platforms, which provide energy access for economic activities in rural areas.

The NAMA has five key objectives which are:

1. Increase the level of renewable energy (for electricity) and contribute to the national long-term target of increasing the share of renewable energy within the power generation sector.
2. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the power generation sector.
3. Increase the rural population's access to sustainable electricity.
4. Encourage an increase in rural community income generation, and improve rural livelihoods.
5. Increase the level of private sector participation within the power sector.

How will this be done?

These objectives will be accomplished through a number of activities, divided into Phase 1 and Phase 2:

- Phase 1 activities will include the establishment of two types of ventures which will connect un-electrified rural communities that would not ordinarily benefit from grid extensions: RE Community Energy Centres and RE Micro-Grids.
- Phase 2 ventures will comprise RE systems which will displace thermal generation at existing regional grids (referred to as RE Displacement Systems) and RE independent power producers.

A core design component are rural productivity zones, where community members will be provided energy access which can be used to start up small businesses.

NAMA targets

In its first phase, the NAMA aims to establish eight RE Community Energy Centres and 8 RE Micro-grids. These interventions will deliver 57,000 kWh/yr of power and reduce 12,700 tCO₂eq over the lifetime of the NAMA.

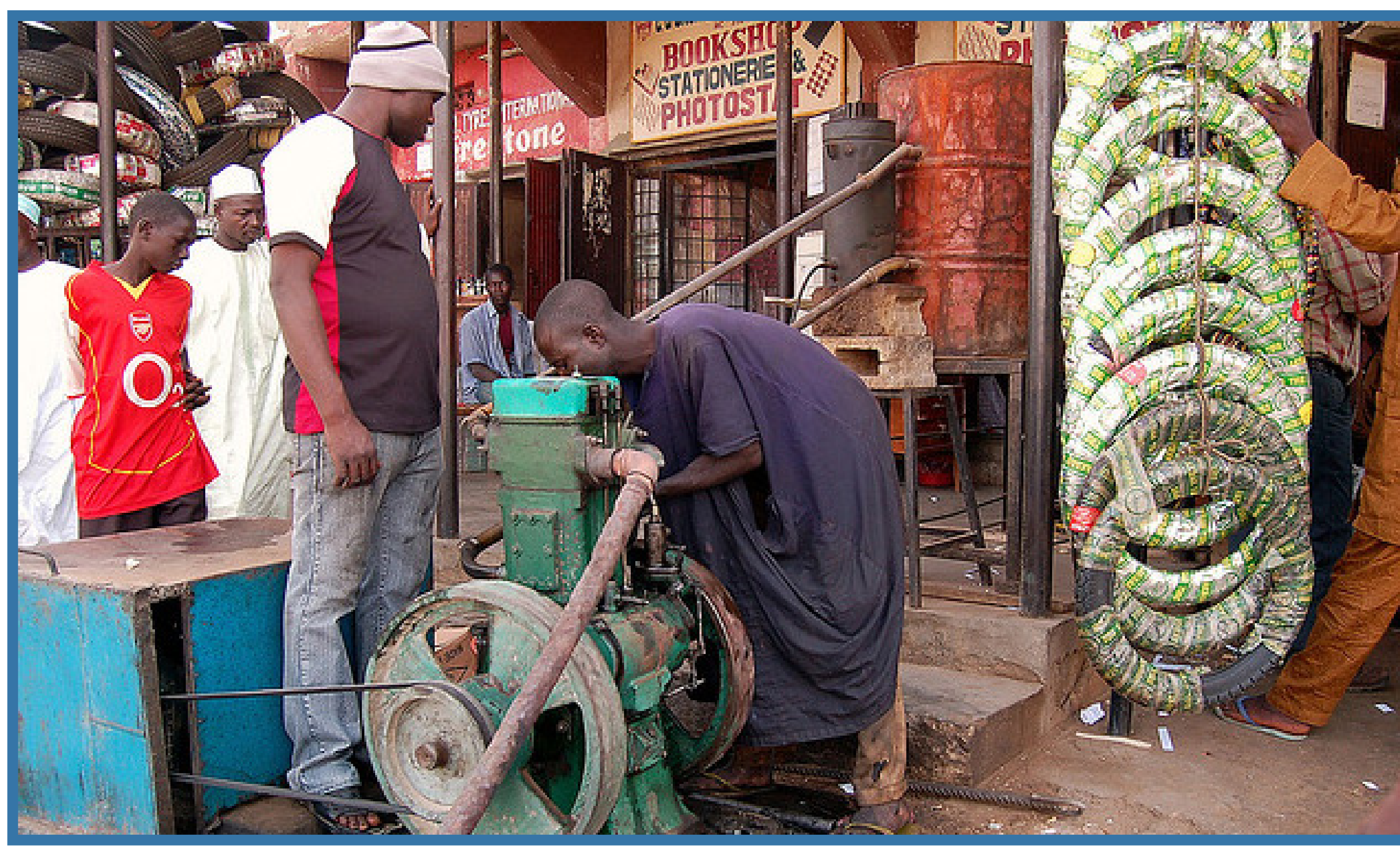
In phase 2, six RE Displacement Systems and 1 RE Independent Power Producer will be established to deliver 10,344,196 kWh/yr of power and reduce 110,000 tCO₂eq over the NAMA lifetime.

Transformational potential?

The transformative change will occur in a fashion which is aligned with national development goals. Vision 2020 is the overarching development framework for The Gambia. The proposed interventions shall shift the sector to low-emission sustainable development pathways through increased off-grid renewable energy production and incentives and technologies for low carbon energy.

How much will the NAMA cost?

The total venture investment costs for phase 1 and phase 2 are US\$ 28,608 million, of which US\$ 9,861 million are international grant. Capacity development costs are expected to be US\$ 3,071 million for both phases.



Who is involved?

- Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Water, Forestry and Wildlife as the designated Policy institution for Climate Change and DNA for the Clean Development Mechanism plus the Ministry of Energy designated institution overseeing Energy related issues in the Gambia;
- A NAMA Approval Committee will provide oversight of the NAMA activities and will have the ultimate decision-making control of final proposals for the allocation of national and international funds for NAMA activities;
- The NAMA Coordinating Authority will be a sub-unit of the Ministry of Energy and will manage and track the operational and financial elements of the NAMA;
- The NAMA Venture Approval Expert Group will be under the NAMA Coordinating Authority and act as technical experts;
- A Trustee will have financial oversight of capital used for all NAMA activities;
- The Executing Entities under the NAMA are the Energy Service Providers and contractors.

This NAMA Design Document was made possible due the generous contribution provided by AusAID.



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