



5TH STAKEHOLDERS' SUSTAINABILITY CONFERENCE HO, GHANA 16TH- 18TH JULY, 2025

CLIMATE RESILIENCE, ENERGY TRANSITION AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Background to the 5th Stakeholders' Conference

Since the birth of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and subsequent promulgation of Paris Climate Agreement in 2015, several efforts have been directed at addressing the interconnected challenges of Climate Change, and energy systems within the last decade. There is therefore the need for strong Climate resilience which refers to the ability of systems and communities to anticipate, absorb, and recover from climate-related shocks. According to the World Meteorological Organization (2023), over 3.6 billion people live in areas highly vulnerable to Climate Change impacts. Simultaneously, the push for a global energy transition from fossil-based systems to renewable and low-carbon sources is reshaping economic and environmental landscapes. The International Energy Agency (2023) reports that renewable energy accounted for nearly 30% of global electricity generation in 2022; a figure projected to rise sharply as countries pursue net-zero emissions targets. These developments reflect the growing recognition that, sustainable development (i.e. meeting present needs without compromising future generations) cannot be achieved without integrating climate and energy considerations (UNDP, 2023).

The synergy between climate resilience, energy transition, and sustainable development is rooted in their shared goals of environmental protection, economic equity, and social well-being. Transitioning to clean energy sources such as solar, wind, and bioenergy reduces greenhouse gas emissions, which directly contributes to climate resilience by slowing the pace of global warming and reducing the frequency of extreme weather events (IPCC, 2023). Moreover, building climate-resilient infrastructure and energy systems strengthens the capacity of communities to adapt to changing climate conditions while creating new green jobs, particularly in developing countries. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 7 (affordable and clean energy) and SDG 13 (climate action), reinforce the importance of an integrated

approach to policy design and implementation (United Nations, 2023). It is within this synergy that nations can develop inclusive, resilient, and low-carbon economies.

Developing countries, especially in Africa, stand at a critical juncture where the alignment of these three pillars can drive inclusive and long-term development. With abundant renewable resources and a rapidly growing population, the continent has the potential to leapfrog traditional carbon-intensive development paths. For instance, Ghana, Kenya, and South Africa have all initiated national energy transition frameworks that emphasize climate adaptation, economic diversification, and energy access (IRENA, 2023). However, financing, institutional capacity, and policy coherence remain key barriers. Therefore, fostering global and regional cooperation is essential in mobilizing investments, technology transfer, and capacity-building to enable a smooth transition and enhanced resilience in vulnerable regions (AfDB, 2023).

Ghana is emerging as a key player in Africa's pursuit of climate resilience, energy transition, and sustainable development. The country is highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, including rising temperatures, erratic rainfall, and coastal erosion, particularly affecting agriculture and livelihoods. In response, Ghana has developed a **National Climate Change Policy** and a **National Adaptation Plan** aimed at enhancing resilience in critical sectors such as water, agriculture, and infrastructure. On the energy front, Ghana is committed to a **just and inclusive energy transition**, as outlined in its **Energy Transition Framework (2022–2070)**. The framework aims to achieve net-zero emissions by 2070 while ensuring energy access and economic development. The country has made strides in expanding **renewable energy sources**, particularly solar and hydropower, although fossil fuels still dominate the energy mix. Efforts are also underway to scale up **clean cooking solutions** and **improve energy efficiency**.

To achieve these transformative goals, organizing multi-stakeholder sustainability conferences is indispensable. Thus, the 5th Stakeholder's Sustainability Conference which is jointly organized by FES and UESD is positioned towards climate resilience and energy transition with the aim of bringing together policymakers, researchers, civil society, and private sector actors to share knowledge, build consensus, and develop innovative solutions. These conferences facilitate cross-sectoral dialogue and policy integration, helping to align national and international efforts toward climate resilience, green energy use, and sustainable development practices. Moreover, they play a crucial role in raising public awareness, strengthening

partnerships, and holding stakeholders accountable (UNEP, 2023). By promoting collaborative action, sustainability conferences not only contribute to environmental restoration but also accelerate the adoption of green technologies and sustainable behaviours across societies.

PROGRAM OUTLINE

Table 1: Program Outline DAY 0		
16th July, 2025	Arrival and Socialisation	
14:00 – 20:00	-	-
17th July, 2025 POLICY SESSION DAY 1		
08:00 – 08:30	Arrival and Registration	-
08:30 – 09:00	Welcome Remarks	<p>Conference Chairperson Professor Eric Nyarko-Sampson Vice-Chancellor, University of Environment and Sustainable Development (UESD)</p> <p>Martin Guettler, Resident Director Friedrich Ebert Stiftung/Ms. Eunice Asiedu Programmes Coordinator, FES-EPCC</p> <p>Good will Mesaages: German Embassy & Netherlands Embassy</p>
09:00 – 10:30	<p>Keynote Speakers</p> <p>Climate Resilience, Energy Transition and Sustainable Development</p>	<p>1. Mr. Roeske Adams Head of Humanitarian Aid and Capital Market, The Clean Commodities Exchange USA</p> <p>2. Dr. Daniel Tutu Benefoh Director, Climate Change, EPA</p> <p>Moderator: Dr. Nuworza Kugbey Department of Sustainable Development and Policy, UESD</p>
10:30 – 11:00	Snack Break	
11:00 – 12:30	<p>Panel Discussion</p> <p>1. Building Climate-Resilient Communities</p> <p>Discussion Points:</p>	<p>Panellists</p> <p>1. Mr. Kingsley Nkansah Former General Secretary of TUC</p> <p>2. Dr. Fatima Araba Eshun, Dept. of Geography and Earth Science, UESD</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Threats from climate-risks in the local context of Ghana ➤ Strategies for Building Community-based Climate-Resilience ➤ Policy, innovation and technology for climate resilience ➤ Social Equity and Inclusion in community-based climate resilience ➤ Financing community-based resilience systems 	<p>3. Ms. Emelia Ghansah, General Agricultural Workers Union - TUC</p> <p>Moderator Dr. Michael Appiah Karikari Dept. of Sustainable Energy and Resources, UESD</p>
	Lunch Break	
13:30 – 15: 00	<p>Panel Discussion Cont'd</p> <p>2. Financing climate resilient systems and Green Transition</p> <p>Discussion Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Assessing the current state of Ghana's Green Transition ➤ Financing mechanisms being used ➤ Other financing mechanisms to facilitate the transition ➤ Mobilizing investments, technology transfer, and capacity-building to enable a smooth transition ➤ Evaluating successful case studies where green finance is contributing to the green transition. 	<p>Panellists</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dr. Alhassan Iddrisu Director, Economic Strategy and Research Division, Ministry of Finance, Accra 2. Eco Bank Africa 3. Representative from MESTI Climate Change Department 4. Mr. Roeske Adams Head of Humanitarian Aid and Capital Market, The Clean Commodities Exchange USA 5. Director, Green Transition, JOSPONG Group of Companies, Accra <p>Moderator: Dr. Theodora Akweley Asiamah Department of Sustainable Development and Policy, UESD</p>
15:00 – 16: 30	<p>Panel Discussion Cont'd</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Climate Resilience and Renewable Energy Transition opportunities: <p>Discussion Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Assessing the current state of Ghana's Climate Resilience and Renewable Energy Transition ➤ Analysing opportunities for investments, technology transfer, and capacity-building to enable a smooth transition ➤ Evaluating measures to achieve just transition ➤ Share case studies where such opportunities have worked. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Energy Expert from Energy Commission 2. MEST Representative 3. Dr. Sam-Quarcoo Doste, Head, Energy and Resource Economics, UESD 4. Private sector renewable energy Representative <p>Moderator: Dr. Michael Tuffour Department of Sustainable Development and Policy, UESD</p>
16:30 – 16: 45	Emerging Issues and Policy Brief	Moderator: Dr. Kweku Adu
16: 30 – 17: 00	Closing Remarks	End of Day 1

18th July, 2025, DAY 2

08:00 – 08:30	Registration	
08:30 – 09:00	Recap of the Previous Day Activities	Dr. Angela Kyerewaa Ayisi-Addo
09:00 – 10:00	Keynote Address 3: Sustainable Development in Action	<p>UNDP Country Director, Ghana</p> <p>Prof. Anthony Amoah Dean of SSD UESD</p> <p>Moderator: Dr. Kwaku Adu Dept. of General Studies, UESD</p>
10:00 – 10:30	Snack Break	
10:30 – 11:30	<p>Panel Discussion</p> <p>➤ Gender, Climate Resilience and Energy Transition</p> <p>Discussion Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Gender-Differentiated Impacts of Climate Change and Energy Poverty ➤ Gender roles in Climate Resilience and Energy Solutions: ➤ Gender-Inclusive Policies and Governance in Climate and Energy Transitions ➤ Economic Opportunities and Empowerment through Green Jobs and Renewable Energy: 	<p>Panellists</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dr. Rosemary Akolaa Anderson Lecturer, UESD 2. ABANTU for Development – Rep 3. Ms. Emelia Ghansah, General Agricultural Workers Union - TUC <p>Moderator: Dr. Felicia Annin Dept. of General Studies, UESD</p>
11:30 – 12:30	Roundtable: Aligning National & Local Strategies	<p>EPA/MEST Representative</p> <p>NDPC</p> <p>Private sector</p> <p>ACEP</p> <p>Farmers Union</p>
12:30 – 13:00	Emerging Policy Issues	Dr. Michael Appiah Karikari
13:00 – 13:30	Closing Remarks from Chairman & Vote of Thanks	<p>VC - UESD, & FES Represent</p> <p>Dr. Daniella D. Sedegah</p> <p>Dept. of Sustainable Development and Policy, UESD</p>
13:30 – 14:30	Lunch Break and Departure	

General Moderators: Ms. Rita A. Boateng & Dr. Kwaku Adu
Assistant Registrar, University Relations Office

