

## GHANA



### Economic Indicators

Population 1998 (million)	18.5 million
Population Growth	
GDP 1997 (US\$ million)	\$ 3.8 billion
GDP Growth 1990-5 (%)	4.6%
Inflation Rate (1999)	20.8% Jan 1998 15.3% Jan 1999
GNP/capita 1995 (US\$)	390
GDP/capita 1998 PPP (US\$)	1800
Foreign direct Investment (US\$ million)	
African Competitiveness ranking	
Human Development Index 1995 (%)	0.473
Local Currency and Exchange Rate	100 Cedi=2.5\$ (Jan.2000)
Stock Exchange	Yes
Number of Households rural/urban	2.3 / 1.5 million
People per Household rural/urban	5 / 4.5
Access to electricity (% of population)	25%



## Overview

There are several factors favouring the use of sustainable energy technologies for service provision in rural areas in Ghana. Ghana has a low level of electrification, an established renewable energy sector and government policies favourable to financial and institutional sector reform. Economic growth is sound, although inflation remains high. Negative aspects which threaten successful deployment include conflicting public sector goals and the resulting lack of energy policy coordination.

A quarter of Ghana's 3.8 million homes are electrified. Electricity satisfies about 10% of total energy demand and is mainly produced from hydro sources. The average unelectrified household in Ghana uses firewood and charcoal to meet the demand for process heat, and kerosene and dry cells for lighting. Black and white TVs, radios and tape players are becoming quite popular in rural areas, powered by lead-acid batteries or dry cells. LPG Distribution in rural areas is rare, but several bottling facilities exist in urban centres across the country. Efforts are also being made to develop low-cost gas appliances for dissemination in rural areas. Predominant environmental issues linked to energy resources are deforestation (22,000 hectares or 2.1% per annum), desertification and land degradation (soil erosion).

Application of modern RE technologies in Ghana is rather small, even though drought over the last few years has caused a significant power shortage and reinforced the need for additional power sources. The Ministry of Mines and Energy has created a Renewable Energy Development Programme and a Self Help Electrification Programme to help rural communities hook up to the grid. About 700 PV and 40 small hydro-systems are installed in Ghana to date.