



Innovate UK



ENERGY CATALYST ROUND 8 BROKERAGE VISIT TO MALAWI

Mission dates:

Sunday 12 – Friday 17 July 2020

Closing date for applications:

Friday 24 April 2020

ENERGY CATALYST (Round 8)

1.1bn people globally have no access to modern energy provision and a further 1bn have only intermittent access. Innovate UK's Energy Catalyst programme aims to support businesses to develop innovative, sustainable energy technologies and business models to accelerate clean energy transition in developing and emerging economies. A key focus is to address the clean energy access challenge in Sub-Saharan Africa and South/South East Asia.

Energy Catalyst Round 8 will launch in quarter 3 of 2020 and is likely to follow similar scope and eligibility to Round 7 which had an early, mid and late stream. These brokerage visits form part of the collaboration-building to enable businesses to develop equitable partnerships between the UK and overseas organisations.

Energy Catalyst is currently funded by the Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF) and Department for International Development (DfID) as part of their Transforming Energy Access programme who have invested more than £60m.

AIM OF THIS VISIT

The key objectives of the international brokerage trips are to help organisations applying for the Energy Catalyst Round 8 to gain an understanding of the energy access issues in Sub-Saharan Africa and South/South East Asia and find links to potential partners who would be interested in submitting an Energy Catalyst Application.

Indicative list of 2020 GCRF visits: Ghana, Malawi, Nepal, Nigeria, Rwanda, S. Africa, Senegal, Togo, Uganda, Vietnam, Zambia.

There are three key parts to the visit:

- **Getting Ready:** Pre-visit briefing to provide background information on the market and training on how to improve your business and technology pitch for in-country brokering. Hints and tips session on applying to Innovate UK.
- **The Visit:** Access to NGOs, local businesses, academics and governments who will be able to provide information about local opportunities. They may also become potential partners to apply into Energy Catalyst Round 8.
- **Helping you make the best of the opportunity:** Companies will work with a designated advisor throughout a structured programme encompassing three main phases.

WHY MALAWI?

According to Malawi's Integrated Resource Plan (IRP), ESCOM aims to supply electricity to close to 30% of the population by 2030, quadrupling current generation levels to 1875 MW. To meet the growing demand, new generation capacity needs to be integrated into the grid on an average annual basis of 157MW over the planning horizon (2017-2036). The IRP specifically mentions plans to add 650 MW of new installed capacity by 2032 – including 165MW of solar, 60MW of wind, 23MW of hydro, 50MW of fuel oil, 250MW of coal, and 100MW of biomass. The likelihood of implementation of these plans varies by project and many believe these plans are overly ambitious. (Source: export.gov)

ENERGY SECTOR IN MALAWI

Malawi's power sector is one of the most severely constrained in sub-Saharan Africa – with only about 11% of the population of 18 million connected to the electrical grid. For the 83% of the people living in rural areas, access to electricity is less than 1%. The total installed capacity for power generation in the interconnected grid of Malawi operated by Electricity Supply Corporation of Malawi (ESCOM) is approximately 362 megawatts (MW), of which 351 MW is hydropower and 11 MW is reciprocal engines (diesel sets). Some off-grid photovoltaic installations exist but are very few. Malawi continues to be heavily reliant on hydropower generation (98% as at April 2018) with the majority of Malawi's hydropower generation derived from the Shire River located south of Lake Malawi (taking up 99% of the power plants). Therefore, the hydrology of the river determines, to a great extent, the available output of electricity at any time.

Estimates indicate that shortage of capacity frequently exceeds 60 MW, or over 17% of peak demand in Malawi. With no reserve margin and a stressed system, the reliability and quality of electricity supply is poor. Malawi depends on domestic generation, as there are currently no significant interconnections to neighbouring countries. Considerable investment in new infrastructure is necessary to improve security and regularity in supply and meet a growing demand. To this effect, the Government of Malawi has developed a number of strategies in the energy sector, including power sector reform, rural electrification, biomass energy and renewable energy. (Source: export.gov)



Knowledge Transfer Network



Business Support on Your Doorstep

ELIGIBILITY

To qualify, organisations must be interested in applying for Energy Catalyst Round 8. They must also be working within technology that addresses all three areas of the energy trilemma and aiming to increase energy access in Sub-Saharan Africa or South Asia. They must also fall into one of the categories below.

- UK-based micro or SME business (given priority)
- Research technology organisation (RTO)
- Academic organisation
- Charity
- Public sector organisation

Eligibility is also subject to UID checks.

Companies that have joined previous GCRF visits may only apply if they can demonstrate:

- A positive impact of their previous participation in applying for the Energy Catalyst Round 7
- Clear additional benefit and impact through the application process

The maximum number of GCRF visits an organisation can attend during 2019 and 2020 is two.

BENEFITS OF THE VISIT

- Pitching to companies in Malawi and organisations to find potential partners
- Group meetings with key industry players to help understand the energy landscape and energy access issues
- Group site visits and potential links to local companies, renewable energy plants and villages that use outstanding renewable energy technologies
- Pre-visit workshop in London, week Tuesday 23 June 2020 providing market information and pitching training
- Your organisation's profile in the visit brochure
- In-market help and advice

DRAFT PROGRAMME

DATE	ACTIVITY
Saturday 11 July 2020 Sunday 12 July 2020	Depart London Heathrow Arrive Lilongwe
Monday 13 – Friday 17 July 2020	Lilongwe, Salima, Blantyre, Mulanje, Thyolo. Activities to include: briefings, B2B meetings, networking reception, pitching sessions, meetings with key industry players, NGOs and academia, site and rural visits.
Saturday 18 July 2020 Sunday 19 July 2020	Depart Blantyre Arrive London Heathrow

A more detailed programme will be provided if your application is successful.

COSTS

On acceptance to the visit, a commitment fee of £500 will be taken from you. This will be returned on completion of the visit and feedback form.

Non-attendance after formal acceptance will result in forfeit of the commitment fee.

TRAVEL

This visit is part of GCRF. For approved organisations, Innovate UK will fund flights, visas, accommodation, in-country transport and group meals.

GCRF does not cover travel and health insurance for the visit. This must be obtained individually. The basic recommendations for vaccinations for Malawi for the short-term traveller are Hepatitis A, Typhoid, Tetanus and Poliomyelitis. Malaria risk is high throughout the year in all areas. You will need to contact your GP or travel nurse to find out whether your existing vaccinations are up-to-date and whether you require additional ones.

HOW TO APPLY

To express an interest in participating, [click here](#). It is a competitive process. Places are limited and applications will be evaluated by a panel of experts from the organisers.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For more information on the Energy Catalyst Round 8, please contact:

Alice Goodbrook, Innovation Lead – Energy, Innovate UK, T: +44 (0)782 6513 670, E: Alice.Goodbrook@innovateuk.ukri.org or Dr Nicola Lazenby, Innovation Lead – Energy, Innovate UK, T: +44 (0) 7342 088736, E: nicola.lazenby@innovateuk.ukri.org.

For any additional information related to the visit, please contact: Vanessa Vlotides, Head of International Business team, London Chamber of Commerce and Industry, T: +44 (0)20 7203 1838, E: GCRFMalawi@londonchamber.co.uk.

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