

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

# ACEP RADAR

JUNE - JULY 2025

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*Insights & Perspectives*

# The Methane Dilemma: Ghana's Climate Risk and Energy Opportunity

**Author:** Dr. Charles Gyamfi Ofori



Methane, a potent greenhouse gas over 80 times more powerful than carbon dioxide over a 20-year period, has emerged as both a critical climate risk and a strategic energy opportunity. In Ghana, natural gas fuels most thermal power plants. Addressing methane emissions offers a dual advantage: environmental protection and enhanced energy security. Yet, methane rarely features prominently in national climate conversations, despite rising levels and far-reaching consequences.

Dr. Charles Gyamfi Ofori, Policy Lead for Climate Change and Energy Transition at ACEP shares his insights and perspective on this issue as part of a broader effort by ACEP, the Clean Air Task Force (CATF), with funding from The Lemelson Foundation, to build awareness, policy engagement, and institutional capacity for methane abatement across Africa. It explores how effective gas commercialisation and methane reduction strategies can be integrated into Ghana's energy and climate planning. Lessons from past energy crises, infrastructure developments like the Atuabo Gas Processing Plant, and the urgent need to curb renewed gas flaring are highlighted.

Through effective methane management, Ghana has a unique opportunity to lead on both climate action and sustainable development.

Read the full post here: [\*\*The Methane Dilemma\*\*](#).



Latest Publication

## Tracking Ghana's Path to Debt Sustainability

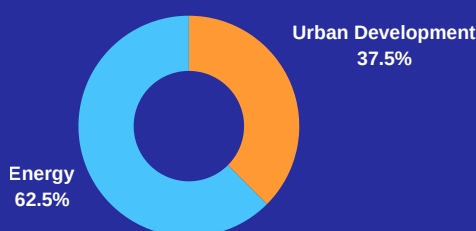
Issue 2

### Debt acquired - US\$ 400 million

Newly Approved Loans to Ghana between April 1, 2024 and April 30, 2025

Date Approved	Amount	Purpose	Lender
17-05-2024	US\$150m	Additional Financing Agreement to finance the ongoing Greater Accra Resilient and Integrated Development (GARID) Project	International Development Association of the World Bank Group
04-09-2024	US\$250m	Support for the Energy Sector Recovery Program and the National LPG Promotion Policy	International Development Association of the World Bank Group

### Classification of Loans by Sector



Energy Sector Debt (Under-recoveries)

**US\$ 876.54 million**

Data for the Debt Tracker is primarily sourced from parliamentary records, relevant government contracting documents and the official website of the Public Utilities Regulatory Commission (PURC).

The IMF's Debt Sustainability Analysis, conducted ahead of Ghana's 17th Programme with the Fund, revealed that the country was in debt distress with medium debt-carrying capacity. This underscores the need for Ghana to reassess fiscal management, particularly in addressing governance and institutional inefficiencies. The energy sector, a major contributor to budgetary pressures, requires urgent reform to ensure fiscal and macroeconomic stability and prevent a relapse into debt distress.

Over a year after the approval of the IMF Extended Credit Facility (ECF), Ghana has made progress in debt restructuring, both domestically and externally. The approval of a fourth tranche this year brings total disbursements to \$2.36 billion. While these measures provide temporary relief, lasting

debt sustainability depends on addressing deep-rooted governance challenges, such as subsidy inefficiencies and budget leakages.

ACEP's debt tracker monitors the relationship between Ghana's debt sustainability and key fiscal governance decisions, with a focus on the energy sector, a long-standing pressure point on the national budget.

In this issue, the Centre calls for urgent reforms in the power distribution sector to ensure financial sustainability, ease fiscal pressure, and free resources for social and economic development to improve the well-being of Ghanaians.

Read full issue [here](#).

*Program/Event Highlight*

## Strategic Meeting of Stakeholders Advancing Energy Access and Clean Energy Advocacy

June 12, 2025 | ACEP Office, North Legon - Accra



With five years remaining to achieve the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals target, millions in Ghana still lack access to clean and reliable energy. Achieving SDG7 requires unified action, stronger collaboration, and renewed resolve.

On Thursday, 12<sup>th</sup> June, 2025, ACEP, in partnership with the Strategic Youth Network for Development (SYND), convened stakeholders from civil society, government, and the private sector to deliberate on the future of the SDG 7 Platform and its role in advancing energy access and clean energy advocacy. Discussions reflected on the platform's current effectiveness, the strategic priorities needed to revamp and reposition it for greater impact, and the importance of strengthening collaboration, ownership, and accountability among members.

The convening reaffirmed the value of collective action and set the tone for a renewed and results-driven platform. With a stronger focus on inclusivity, coordination, and measurable outcomes, the SDG 7 Platform is now better positioned to accelerate Ghana's progress toward affordable and clean energy for all.

ACEP calls on all stakeholders, partners, and individuals committed to achieving SDG 7 to join the Ghana SDG 7 CSOs Platform, and contribute to shaping a more sustainable and energy-secure future for every Ghanaian. Join [here](#).



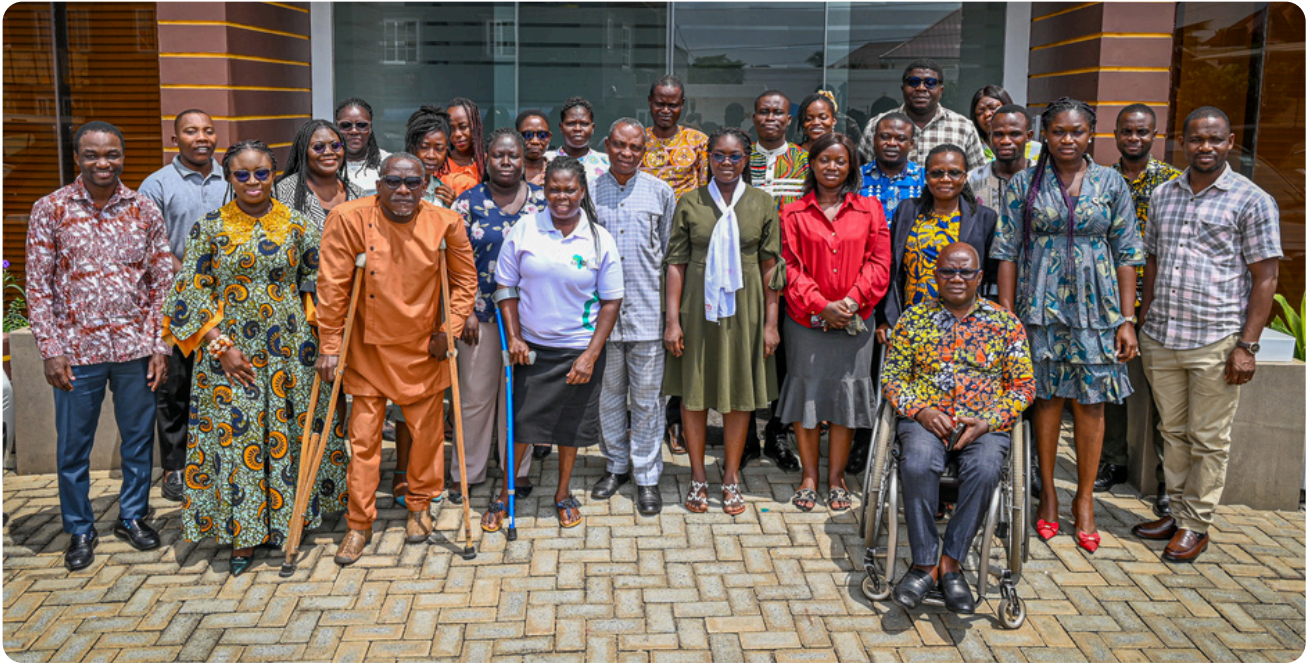




*Program/Event Highlight*

## Building Inclusive Participation of Women and PWDs in Ghana's Energy Transition

June 26, 2025 | ACEP Office, North Legon - Accra



Access to clean cooking remains one of Ghana's most pressing development challenges, with far-reaching implications for public health, gender equality, climate resilience, and sustainable energy. Over 80% of households in Sub-Saharan Africa still rely on polluting fuels, leading to serious health issues and environmental degradation. Despite some progress made, major gaps remain in adopting clean, affordable cooking solutions.

On Thursday, 22nd May 2025, ACEP, in partnership with Oxfam in Ghana, convened policymakers, innovators, researchers, civil society, and private sector actors to advance Ghana's clean cooking agenda. The dialogue explored innovative technologies, financing, and collaboration to achieve universal access to clean, sustainable cooking energy.

Key discussions revealed both opportunities and challenges. While LPG dominates Ghana's clean cooking sector, ethanol

emerged as a promising alternative, though cost and distribution barriers persist. Carbon financing has shown potential for scaling solutions, but it requires stronger monitoring systems. Participants identified crucial gaps in coordination between institutions, leading to inconsistent data and policies. Enhanced data systems and collaboration are necessary to align with national clean cooking policies and SDG 7 targets. Other barriers include inadequate fuel standards, poorly adapted stove designs, and limited public awareness.

Moving forward, stakeholders committed to enhancing coordination through existing platforms such as the Ghana Alliance for Clean Cooking, expanding research partnerships, and developing targeted awareness campaigns. The private sector emphasized the need for affordable business models and supportive policies to increase accessibility.







*Program/Event Highlight*

## High-Level Discussion: Addressing Ghana's Energy Sector Challenges for Economic Transformation

July 18, 2025 | Kempinski Hotel Gold Coast City, Accra



Ghana's energy sector has seen remarkable progress in electricity access and generation, but persistent challenges, rising costs, weak revenue recovery, and structural inefficiencies, continue to undermine its long-term sustainability and place a heavy burden on the economy. To address these issues, ACEP, in collaboration with the Open Society Foundations and the Ministry of Energy and Green Transition, Ghana, convened a high-level dialogue on July 18, 2025, at the Kempinski Hotel Gold Coast City, Accra.

Themed “Addressing Ghana’s Energy Sector Challenges for Economic Transformation,” the meeting brought together government officials, regulatory institutions, civil society, academia, and development partners for an open exchange on reforms needed to secure the sector’s future.

Discussions highlighted the fiscal strain caused by inefficiencies, with under-recoveries estimated at about 2 per cent of GDP, equivalent to four times the country’s annual capital investment in infrastructure. Stakeholders underscored the urgency of reforming the sector to free up resources for development priorities while ensuring a sustainable and reliable power system.

Key interventions discussed included renegotiating IPP contracts, enhancing private sector participation in electricity distribution, accelerating progress in Ghana’s green transition, and strengthening procurement efficiency. Participants further stressed the importance of embedding gender equity, climate justice, and inclusivity in policy solutions to ensure that reforms drive both sustainability and broad-based development.

See the [\*\*press statement\*\*](#) released after the engagement for insights and recommendations.







*Program/Event Highlight*

## Campus Rally and Launch of the Resource Governance Campus Hub - KNUST

July 22, 2025 | Kwame Nkrumah University of Science & Technology, Kumasi



Youth disengagement in governance threatens the future of transparency and accountability. To address this, the Africa Centre for Energy Policy (ACEP) is engaging tertiary students across Ghana through the Resource Governance Campus Hub, empowering them to advocate for the sustainable and inclusive management of the country's natural resources.

The Hub brings together students from diverse disciplines who share an interest in energy, governance, and development. On Tuesday, 22nd July 2025, ACEP expanded the Hub to the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST), Kumasi, equipping young leaders to influence policy, demand accountability, and champion reforms through dialogue, advocacy, and innovation. The next launch will be at the University of Cape Coast.

We are bringing the Resource Governance Campus Hub to universities across Ghana. Stay tuned as we launch hubs near you! Interested in starting a hub on your campus? Visit <https://acep.africa/rgchub/> and get in touch to get involved.

Through this initiative, KNUST students and their peers across Ghana are stepping up to shape the future of resource governance and drive meaningful change.









# Future of Energy **Conference** **2025**

## **THEME**

Financing Africa's Energy Future: Unlocking Investments  
for Energy Access and Economic Transformation



**26th-27th August,  
2025**



**Labadi Beach Hotel,  
Accra**

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ACEP is a thought leader in Africa's energy and extractives governance space, working towards improving economic transformation and inclusive sustainable development. We contribute to developing alternative and innovative policy interventions through high-quality research, analysis, and advocacy in Africa's energy and extractives sector.